

U.N. envoy visits Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — A top United Nations official met Israel's deputy foreign minister Sunday to discuss security in South Lebanon and the role of U.N. troops there. The talks between U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Gouding and Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu focused on the role of U.N. peacekeepers in South Lebanon. Gouding told reporters that U.N. troops in South Lebanon were in a peaceful area but "there is violence to the north and always the danger that violence in one part will spill over to another." Israeli relations with the United Nations Truce Supervision Force in Lebanon (UNTSF) have been strained over control of South Lebanon where the Jewish state maintains a "security corridor" along the border. Gouding said he and Netanyahu discussed the renewal in September of the UNTSF mandate for another six months. The force, set up in 1978 to restore Lebanese authority in southern Lebanon, comprises 5,500 troops from Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Nepal and Sweden.

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Doe held virtual prisoner

MONROVIA (R) — Liberian President Samuel Doe was a virtual prisoner in his mansion Sunday, held by some 500 soldiers of his own Krahn tribe who refused to let him leave the capital as rebel forces closed in, military sources said. Other Krahn soldiers inside the sequestered executive mansion were pushing Doe to leave quickly to avoid a bloodbath. There was bitter fighting between the two factions as rebels battled with Doe's troops in the streets of Monrovia less than two kilometres away, the sources said. Doe appeared to have lost track of reality and was "convinced he is invincible," one diplomatic source said. As disaster came closer, the 52-year-old former army master sergeant who seized power 10 years ago was reverting increasingly to the tribal belief that magic would save him, the source added. The source said he expected Doe to fight to the bitter end from his sequestered mansion, stockpiled with ammunition and explosives in preparation for a final rebel assault.

Saudi leader to visit Beijing

JEDDAH (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has accepted an invitation to visit Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said Sunday, a day after Riyadh and Beijing established formal ties. After meeting with the Saudi monarch and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, Qian told a news conference the date for Fahd's trip would be fixed later. Fahd was invited by President Yang Shangkun. The establishment of diplomatic ties over the weekend was the first time Saudi Arabia has set up formal relations with a communist country. Prince Saud had rushed back to sign the agreement late Saturday night after a mediation mission in Baghdad to try to defuse the Kuwait-Iraq crisis (see page 2).

British deputies arrive in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Three British parliamentarians arrived in Beirut Sunday for talks with Lebanese government officials about the country's 15-year-old civil war. The three deputies from the Conservative Party, Colin Shepherd, Robert Adley and Tim Rathbone, were met at Beirut airport by a delegation of Lebanese deputies. "It is a good visit aimed at showing our support to your government. We want to express that support by being here and meeting Lebanon's political leaders," Adley told reporters. Lebanese army and police provided tight security as they left airport in west Beirut where several kidnappings of Westerners took place over the past four years. The delegation said it had no information about three British hostages — Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and former fighter pilot Jack Mann — or Irishman Brian Keenan who holds dual British and Irish nationality, who are among 15 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

Romanians demand release of student

BUCHAREST (AP) — About 5,000 people demonstrated Sunday for the release of jailed student activist Marian Munteanu and the resignation of President Ion Iliescu. The protest here coincided with the seven-month anniversary of the toppling of former communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu by a popular uprising Dec. 22. "Down with Iliescu," "Down with communism" and "Resign, resign," chanted the demonstrators gathered in the capital's Opera Square. Many carried flowers. The authorised demonstration was organised by student leagues and organisations. More than 20,000 people attended a similar rally July 13.

India party hints at mid-term poll

MADRAS (R) — India's crisis-ridden minority government might have to face mid-term elections, the leader of the Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said Sunday. BJP President Lal Kishan Advani, whose party helps keep the National Front government of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh in power, said he doubted the government would last its full five-year term. "There is a possibility of mid-term elections," Advani told a party meeting in Madras.

Police arrest over 800 at north England 'acid' party

LONDON (R) — British police in riot gear arrested more than 800 revellers on drug possession and other charges in a raid on an illegal disco party Sunday. Police made 836 arrests when they broke up a so-called "acid house" party, attended by up to 2,000 youngsters crowded inside a warehouse in the northern England city Leeds. Some £2,000 (\$3,630) worth of drugs, including LSD, cannabis and amphetamines were seized. Party-goers were also arrested for criminal damages and public order offences. "Acid house" parties — mass gatherings held at warehouses and open-air venues and featuring a 1960s-style music known as "acid rock" — were recently banned in Britain.

King receives Kuwaiti message, pledges all efforts to end dispute

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received a message from Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait over oil production and prices and territorial claims and pledged to exert all efforts to resolve the issue.

The message was delivered to the King by Kuwait's minister of state for cabinet affairs, Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, in a meeting attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Awadi, who later left for Damascus with a message on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute from Sheikh Jaber to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, was quoted as saying by Petra that during the meeting the King stressed the need to contain the issue and pledged to make every possible effort to resolve the problem.

According to Awadi, "such crises do not disturb or spoil the close inter-Arab relations, which

should be at its best at this point in time when the entire Arab Nation is facing various common challenges."

In an arrival statement in Damascus, Awadi, one of three Kuwaiti ministers currently on tour of Arab states with messages to their leaders, praised Syria's role in promoting Arab solidarity and collective action.

Syria has given front-page coverage to reports on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute in its official newspapers but has refrained from criticising Iraq as part of a tacit agreement between the two following Egyptian mediation in their decade-old rift.

House urges end to rift

The Lower House of Parliament issued a statement calling on Iraq and Kuwait to settle the dispute through Arab national institutions and to ensure that the issue was not internationalised.

The statement read: "The Lower House of Parliament, while following up with extreme concern the latest de-

velopments between the two sister Arab countries Iraq and Kuwait, calls on the leaders of the two countries to settle their differences peacefully and in a spirit of brotherhood through the Arab national institutions to prevent the internationalisation of the issue.

"By doing so, the leaderships of the two countries can foil the attempts by malicious countries, headed by the United States, the protector and defender of Israel, to exploit inter-Arab differences. Such attempts are aimed at splitting the Arab Nation and destroying the future of its generations."

"The Lower House, while confident of the wisdom of both the leaderships of Iraq and Kuwait and of their ability to settle their differences themselves and through the good offices of their Arab brethren and the Arab League, implores God to inspire the leaderships of the two countries and give them the right guidance to settle their differences peacefully and in a spirit of brotherhood and love."

8 shot and wounded in continuing Rafah violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Unknown assailants beat to death an alleged collaborator Sunday in occupied Jerusalem, while eight Palestinian teenagers were reported shot by Israeli soldiers in a third day of violence in a Gaza Strip refugee camp.

In the West Bank, a group of 30 Israelis demanding the "right" to build a Jewish settlement in Jericho occupied the remains of a old synagogue. They were dislodged by soldiers after several hours.

A 20-year-old man was fatally beaten by masked youths in Silwan, a village within Jerusalem's boundaries, police said. Sources identified him as Yasin Mohammad Isakfi.

Police said the slayers apparently suspected Isakfi, who

worked as a gardener for the city, was collaborating with Israeli authorities.

In the Gaza Strip's Rafah refugee camp, eight Palestinians age 15 to 19 were shot in the legs by soldiers in renewed clashes between troops and stone-throwing youths, hospital officials said.

Rafah was one of the hotspots of the uprising but has had few incidents for the past month. Residents attributed the calm to soldiers staying out of the camp and not provoking uprising activists.

Israeli newspapers reported the army was using Rafah as an experiment on how to cut casualties at a time when Israel faced international criticism over its efforts to put down the Palestinian revolt.

More than 60 Palestinians have been shot and wounded since clashes between soldiers and stone throwers resumed Friday.

On Saturday, Israeli troops shot and wounded 23 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, hospital officials said. Twenty-one people were injured in Rafah. On Friday night, 36 Rafah residents were shot and wounded in clashes with troops.

In Gaza city, a nine-year-old boy was shot in the arm when troops clashed with stone-throwing demonstrators.

Arab hospitals in the West Bank said Ali Droubi, 26, was shot and wounded during clashes with troops in the town of Jenin.

Early Saturday, helicopter-borne and ground troops arrested more than 10 Palestinian activists in Beit Amrah village.

Hizbollah blunts Amal-PLO thrust

SIDON, Lebanon (AP) — Iranian-backed fundamentalists Sunday crushed a joint attack by rival Shi'ite Muslims and Palestinian guerrillas in two days of close-quarter combat that left at least 51 people killed at a mountain-top town in South Lebanon, police said.

A police spokesman said 125 others were wounded in the ferocious battle that turned the strategic town of Jarjouch near an Israeli-occupied border enclave into a "graveyard littered with uncollected corpses."

The spokesman said the casualty toll would rise sharply when rescuers are allowed to go into Jarjouch, the largest town in South Lebanon's Iqlim Al Tuffah.

The new casualties raised the toll of the week-long clashes between the pro-Iranian Hizbollah and the more secular Amal militia, which is backed by Syria, to 124 killed and 357 injured.

The two factions have been fighting for three years for mastery of the 1.5 million Shi'ites, Lebanon's largest sect.

By police count, 1,165 people have been killed and 3,499 wounded in the inconclusive power struggle.

Iran has stepped in to try to arrange a ceasefire. Ali Riza Walizadeh, political officer of the Iranian embassy in Beirut, travelled to Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, for meetings with factional leaders Sunday.

Walizadeh met Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss in Beirut Saturday and delivered a message of support for his government from Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Peres beats Rabin in party vote

TEL AVIV (R) — Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres defied the odds Sunday and soundly defeated challenger Yitzhak Rabin in a vote on who should lead the political fight against Israel's new right-wing government.

Labour's central committee voted 54 per cent to 46 per cent not to force an early showdown in the contest for party leader, scheduled for next year. Rabin, said by opinion polls to be the only Labour leader who could defeat the rightist Likud Party, had wanted the issue settled this week.

On July 12 Rabin won a first round when 60 of the 100 members in the Labour executive backed his request to advance the timing of the leadership contest. It recommended the central committee should take the same decision.

"I think it was a victory for the party, not for me. It's a victory for the members... to serve the future of the party," said Peres. During five years as defence minister until Labour's coalition with Likud collapsed last March, Rabin gained popularity because he coupled his iron-fisted handling of the Palestinian uprising with an avowed desire to negotiate a settlement with the Palestinians.

Supporters hugged Peres as he entered the conference hall at the Tel Aviv fairgrounds to hear the results. Rabin shook his hand and pledged to work for a united party in opposition to Likud Party Minister Yitzhak Shamir's hardline rightist coalition.

An estimated 250 PLO fighters then teamed up with 300 Amal militiamen in a two-pronged storming of Jarjouch Saturday.



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday receives message from Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Petra photo)

Egypt confident Iraq will end row with Kuwait, UAE

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak said Sunday he was sure Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would peacefully end an oil and territory dispute with Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Mubarak and other Arab leaders have been mediating the crisis between Iraq and its neighbours, Kuwait and the UAE, which erupted suddenly last Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the July 23 revolution which overthrew the monarchy in Egypt, Mubarak stressed the importance of Arab unity in his nationally televised speech.

He said we considered the dispute "a cloud passing over our brother in Iraq and our brothers in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates."

"They are all Arab countries and members of the Arab League... I am perfectly sure, and based on my experience with our Arab brothers, that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is capable in his wisdom to overcome

this problem quietly and with objectivity so as to avoid the obstacles, tension and breakups that could happen to Arab unity."

Mubarak was speaking shortly before meeting Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. Iraq has accused Kuwait of stealing Iraqi oil and building military bases on its territory, Aziz said Baghdad Sunday was not to blame for the crisis which has shaken the Gulf.

Iraq said Kuwait and the UAE had stabbed it in the back by exceeding their oil quotas, driving down prices and depriving Baghdad of the cash it needed to rebuild its war-damaged economy.

"We are not threatening anyone, they (Kuwait and the UAE) are the ones who are threatening us," Aziz told reporters after meeting Mubarak.

The Iraqi foreign minister later handed Mubarak a letter on the dispute from President Hussein. Both Kuwait and the UAE had

already agreed to cut production by a combined total of about 800,000 barrels per day and Iraq threatened unspecified action if they failed to honour their pledge.

Egyptian Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel said in remarks published Saturday that Cairo believed the way to solve the crisis was for Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) states to curb output.

The same day Iraq said Kuwait was paving the way for foreign powers to intervene in the region.

The United States' navy escorted Kuwaiti tankers through a gauntlet of Iranian gunboats and aircraft during the Gulf war, halted by a ceasefire in August, 1988.

Most of Kuwait's tanker fleet was reflagged by Washington and several vessels still fly the stars and stripes — and are entitled to U.S. naval protection.

Washington said Wednesday it was ready to help its "friends" in the Gulf should they need it.

King meets Qaddoumi

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday met with Farouq Qaddoumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The agency did not give details, but it was believed that the talks during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the region, the stalled Middle East peace process and the U.S. administration's suspension of its 18-month-old dialogue with the PLO in June.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem held talks with Qaddoumi Saturday on the peace process and relations between Jordan and the PLO.

Qaddoumi, who arrived here Saturday, was quoted as saying in the local press Sunday that intense Jordan-PLO coordination was necessary to confront common challenges. He said both sides were anxious to clear the Arab atmosphere and settle inter-Arab rifts with a view to consolidating collective Arab action.

Qaddoumi told Jordan Television Saturday that the suspension of the U.S.-PLO dialogue showed that the U.S. was still biased towards Israel. He said, however, that if opening the dialogue in the first place meant recognition of the PLO it was an advanced step. "China and the U.S. talked for 20 years," before established relations, he said. He said the U.S. must comprehend that the Palestinian people cannot provide concessions nor give up on its rights and will continue to struggle until regaining its full national rights.

Petra said the King's meeting with Qaddoumi was attended by Royal Court Chief Sherif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and the Palestinian ambassador to Jordan.

4 infiltrators shot dead near border with Syria

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An army patrol shot dead four armed men when they tried to infiltrate into Jordanian territory from Syria, a security source said Sunday.

The account was confirmed by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, which said the incident took place at 10 p.m. Saturday.

According to Petra, the infiltrators were spotted by Jordanian security forces who asked them to stop and when the order was disobeyed opened fire and killed the four. There was no casualty on the Jordanian side, the agency said.

The Petra report, quoting an official source, did not give details, except that the incident took place in an area mostly used by drug and arms smugglers for illegal entry into the Kingdom.

The security source told the Jordan Times the four were carrying "cards identifying them as members of the PFLP-GC" — the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command led by Ahmad Jibril. "However, we do not think they were members of the PFLP-GC but of another Damascus-based group," added the source, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

The source would not identify the group, but several splinter Palestinian groups are based in Syria, including a dissident group of the Islamic Jihad Beit Al Maqdes as well as the Fateh Uprising led by Saeed Musa (Abu Musa). Both groups have claimed responsibility for past infiltration attempts and attacks against Israel across Jordan's demarcation line with the Jewish state.

The security source could not say whether any paper carried by the four shot dead Saturday infiltrators.

(Continued on page 3)

On the Occasion of
Al-Hijra Year



ARAB BANK

has the honour to convey to

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

and to the Jordanian people

its felicitations and
most cordial wishes

(Continued on page 5)

S. Arabia, China announce formal ties

JEDDAH (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, and his Saudi Arabian counterpart, Prince Saud Al Faisal, arrived Sunday in Jeddah for a meeting with King Fahd after China and Saudi Arabia established diplomatic relations.

It was the theocratic kingdom's first diplomatic tie with a communist nation.

Prince Saud rushed back late Saturday night from a mediation mission in Baghdad to defuse the Kuwait-Iraq crisis and signed the documents with Qian establishing formal relations between Beijing and Riyadh.

Following the signing ceremony in the capital Riyadh, Prince Saud was quoted by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) as saying the move is "an important step that will have an impact on the interest of the two nations and the interest of our Arab and Islamic nations."

Expressing his satisfaction at the decision, he noted that China "enjoys prominent international status and has a glorious reputation and history."

In similar statements, Qian stressed relations between the kingdom and China "have entered a new developed stage that not only conforms to the interests of our two nations but also serves the preservation of peace, stability and development in the two regions in which our two countries are located and throughout the world."

The move closed the chapter of the kingdom's refusal to establish diplomatic ties with any communist nation and was expected eventually to pave the way for a similar step with the Soviet Union.

Diplomatic sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said however that ties with Moscow were not expected to be established this year.

In the ultra-conservative king-

dom, communism was long held to be akin to atheism. The dramatic changes that started with the perestroika of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and spread to East Europe and other communist nations helped change the Saudi outlook.

"Communism now is over," said a newspaper editor commenting on the move.

"It is only a matter of interests, and there is considerable economic and political interest in the kingdom's establishment of ties with Beijing. When Riyadh sees that interests dictate relations with Moscow, there will be no hesitation about taking the step."

There has been a relative warming in relations between Riyadh and Moscow since the Soviet military pullout from Afghanistan. Some 1,500 Soviet Muslims were allowed to perform the pilgrimage to Mecca this year, the highest in modern times.

But there are still problems such as finding a settlement in Afghanistan and the large-scale emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Diplomatic sources pointed to extensive horizons for political and economic relations for the kingdom with China. They noted that Beijing is permanent member of the U.N. Security Council and has consistently supported the Palestinian case in world forums.

The same sources said that China, with a population exceeding one billion, also presented the kingdom with a huge market for oil and petrochemicals, backbone of the Saudi economy.

In return, China has won a prize catch in gaining cooperation from the Saudis, the richest Arab state and the world's largest oil-exporting country, the sources noted. China can look to possible Saudi and other Arab investments.

The Saudi decision reduced to

27 the number of countries that recognise the Taiwan nationalists compared to 136 that have ties with China.

The establishment of ties between Riyadh and Beijing, announced in both capitals shortly after midnight Sunday in Saudi Arabia (2100 GMT), was contained in a brief joint statement that said Saudi Arabia recognised the People's Republic of China as the "sole legitimate government representing the entire Chinese people."

Taipei's government was angered by the Riyadh move which ended 44 years of relations with them.

A statement from Taipei's Foreign Ministry accused Saudi Arabia of yielding to pressure from China and said Taiwan's embassy in Riyadh had been ordered to " lodge the strongest protest" over the Saudi decision.

Saudi Arabian Minister of Industry and Electricity Abdul Aziz Al Zamil had been in Taipei last week to give them advance notice of the Saudi decision and affirm that the kingdom was keen to continue trade relations with them, the diplomats said.

At present, Saudi trade with Taiwan is larger than with Beijing. But Beijing organised a trade fair in Riyadh earlier this year, and is planning another in Jeddah early 1995.

Saudi relations with Beijing improved dramatically in 1986 when China sold the Saudis long-range CSS-2 ballistic missiles. The deal was disclosed in early 1988.

On Saturday, China, Taiwan's foreign minister, accused Beijing of using "silver bullet diplomacy" to win the recognition of Saudi Arabia.

China offered Saudi Arabia a discount of \$710 million from \$6.6 billion worth of weapons sales, including satellites and the intermediate-range ballistic missiles, China claimed.



NEW BLOC BORN: Members of parliament, political and union activists, independents and journalists attend a meeting Sunday at the Professional Associations Complex, where the Jordanian national Arab Democratic Coalition was formally launched.

Bloc pledges to protect democracy

(Continued from page 1)

the World Bank and getting rid of their grip on the economic policy because this school is responsible for the national debt."

— Protecting and supporting the public sector to enhance productivity under the supervision of the Lower House of Parliament.

— Supporting the private sector in industry, agriculture and tourism and ending all bureaucratic obstacles to enhancing productivity in these fields; and

— Funding small industries and businesses in cities, towns and refugee camps by financial institutions within a special law governing social and economic development under the supervision of the Central Bank of Jordan.

Abdadi said that all those proven guilty of corruption must be brought to justice and "what was stolen must be returned to the national treasury within the boundaries of the law." He added that there must be an increase in measures to combat corruption, particularly from the Lower House, the judiciary and the press.

Abdadi described in detail the programme of the coalition concerning the national financial and economic policy, which included reviewing the government's economic reform programme, renegotiating with parties concerned with the national debt, reviewing financial legislation "which discharges different levels of income," and selling public-sector utilities' products such as water and electricity — at lower prices for low-income citizens.

The coalition, Abdadi went on, also aims at working towards

amending the social security law to include full medical insurance and social security compensation to the unemployed.

The JNADC plans to work towards Arab and national unity to confront Israeli threats, and calls on creating an "eastern front that includes Jordan, Syria, Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) — and any other Arab country willing to join — to confront Israel and protect Arab security against Israel's Zionist expansionist policy and the Israeli-American alliance."

The coalition, Abdadi said, rejects American-Israeli plans for the Middle East conflict, including the "Shamir-Baker plan because it is based on the Camp David agreement, as it does not recognise the rights of Palestinians, including the right of return and the right to set up an independent Palestinian state on its national soil."

The charter also stipulates support and protection of Jordan's national unity, Palestinian unity inside and outside Palestine with the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and support of the Palestinian struggle against Israeli occupation, particularly the uprising.

Abdadi added that the coalition was establishing contacts and relations with political parties in the Arab World to work together towards Arab unity and serving Arab interests.

"We aim to upgrade Arab culture, and hold on to the good morals emerging from the Arab and Islamic culture, will be open to other cultures," Abdadi concluded.

Among the bloc's members are eight Lower House of Parliament deputies: Faris Nabulsi (Aqaba),

Hosni Shiyab (Irbid), Mohammad Faris Tarawneh (Karak), Mansour Saifuddin Murad (Amman), Izzat Matar (Karak), Deeb Marji (Irbid), Hassan Haddadin (Zarka), Fakhr Kavar (Amman). All eight are members of the Democratic Alliance in Parliament.

The bloc includes three members of the Royal Commission entrusted with drafting Jordan's national charter. They are lawyer Ibrahim Bekar, poet and columnist Abdul Rahim Omar and Taysir Zahr, a political activist.

It also includes seven presidents of seven professional unions: Mamoun Abadi of the Jordan Medical Association, Ghaleb Abu Urabi of the agricultural engineers, Walid Abdul Hadi of lawyers, Husein Khreifat of journalists, Taysir Husein of pharmacists, Awai Al Saket of contractors and Ismail Barwoush of engineers. It also groups four ex-presidents of associations: Ibrahim Abu Ayesh, engineer; Hassan Khris, doctor; Nabih Mansour, doctor; and Ali Abu Al Ragh, contractor.

Other members include Mahmoud Maaty (pro-Syrian Baath party), Taher Odwan (Fateh), Saleh Qalab (Fateh), Walid Al Ahmad (Fateh), Faez Ward (Communist), Mohammad Lowas Dabbagh, Hamdi Mattar (PFLP), George Haddadin, Mas-hour Hadeith (retired chief of staff), Bahjat Abu Gharbeilah (Popular Struggle Front), Mounes Razzaz (writer, independent), Saleh Elshaker (independent), Yagoub Zyad (communist party secretary general), Ahmad Najolawi (pro-Iraq Baath Party), Saleh Al Fayez (independent), Azmi Khawaja (PFLP), Ahmad Naba'a (Communist), and Salim Nuhay (DRLP).

Iran radical says moderates trying to monopolise power

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's leading radical Ali Akbar Mohtashemi has sparked a new political row by accusing moderates of trying to exclude hardliners from choosing the country's top leadership.

Supporters of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani have reacted sharply to Mohtashemi's charges, accusing him in turn of factional provocation.

In a hard-hitting speech to parliament last Wednesday, Mohtashemi criticised new rules adopted by the Experts' Assembly, a council of 82 Muslim clerics which has the power to choose and dismiss the supreme leader.

"Foundations are being laid today to make the assembly a one-faction body," he said. "This is a prelude to weakening the Experts' Assembly."

He said a one-track assembly would be against the wishes of the late founder of the Islamic republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

It was a rare direct attack on the assembly which, chosen for eight-year terms and closely linked to the leadership, is a bedrock of continuity of Iran's Islamic system of government.

Iranians will choose a new Experts' Assembly in elections scheduled for Oct. 8.

"Mohtashemi's harsh criticism... indicates that the provocative move was in all probability pre-planned and had the backing of certain groups who wish to change the basic construction and bring into disrepute the credibility of the Experts' Assembly," said the Tehran Times, which is considered close to Rafsanjani.

Hardliners, who have a majority in parliament, have lost much of their power in the executive and judicial branches in the year since Khomeini died.

It was the Experts' Assembly which voted Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as supreme leader in an emergency meeting a day after Khomeini's death in June 1989.

A member of the assembly's secretariat ruled out any chance of another vote on Khamenei when the new assembly met after the October elections.

"There is no question of a vote of confidence. Only if it has been established that the leader is no longer qualified will the Experts' Assembly vote on his dismissal," Resalat newspaper Thursday

quoted Ayatollah Ebrahim Amini as saying.

Under Iran's constitution amended a year ago, the leader, chosen for life, holds wide powers including command of the armed forces, the right to declare war and peace and appointment of senior officials.

A two-day session of the Experts' Assembly which ended last Monday decided that six theologians of the Guardian Council should decide if candidates for the assembly were qualified.

The Guardian Council, which has veto power over parliament, has often been criticised by hardliners for decisions they regard as pro-capitalist and unrevolutionary.

Vice-President Ataollah Mohajerani, writing in Ettelaat newspaper, defended the assembly's decision as wholly constitutional and said Mohtashemi's remarks showed his "ignorance and boastfulness."

He chided Mohtashemi, who went through screening by the Guardian Council when he was elected to parliament last year, for raising undue alarm over the council's alleged bias.

Iraq denies criticising Cairo, stresses ties

CAIRO (R) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Sunday a brief row with Egypt over remarks seen as offensive by Cairo had ended.

"This chapter has been closed," Aziz told reporters after meeting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for 75 minutes Sunday, which he handed him a letter from Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

"He who thinks that an Iraqi foreign minister can offend Egypt is mistaken," said Aziz, stressing Baghdad's "respect" for Mubarak and Foreign Minister Esmat Meguid.

"I think it is clear why he is here. It is apparently a form of apology," a source close to the talks told Reuters.

Aziz, flanked by Abdul Meguid, reiterated that Cairo dailies had misinterpreted remarks he made last week at an Arab League foreign ministers meeting in Tunis in which he appeared to criticise Abdul Meguid's absence.

"An Arab country (Egypt)

pushed the PLO to have a dialogue with America... today the dialogue has been suspended. Is it not its responsibility (to attend)..." Cairo's dailies Thursday quoted Aziz as saying in Tunis.

The press reports said Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat criticised Cairo's Middle East peace policy at the meeting and its close ties with Washington. Cairo later described the remarks as "slandorous."

"I was astonished that my words at the closed session (in Tunis) were misinterpreted," Aziz said. Well-placed sources said the remarks published in Cairo's state-run dailies were excerpts from the official transcript of the Tunis meeting.

Abdul Meguid was unable to attend the session due to a visit to Egypt by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called the meeting to discuss Washington's decision in June to suspend its 18-month-old dialogue with the PLO.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEF

Egyptair to buy planes

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said Sunday that national carrier Egyptair would buy 14 new planes for a total of \$1.635 billion, and urged his countrymen to take more pride in using their airline. Egyptians believe everything foreign is superior and like to boast. "I have a reservation on Swissair," Mubarak complained in a televised speech marking Egypt's 1952 revolution. "Citizens, fly with your company (Egyptair)... this is the first time the airline will buy aircraft from its own revenue," said Mubarak, a former air force pilot. He did not give details of the planes that would be bought. In May the carrier approved the purchase of five Boeing 737-500s and has nine ordered Airbus A300-600s. As part of his plug for Egyptair, Mubarak said his son had once taken a direct flight to London on a foreign airline that was diverted to Amman and arrived several hours late. "It was like a village bus," he said.

'Libya to build underground centre'

BONN (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi plans to build an underground military command centre in the desert, according to the West German news magazine Der Spiegel. "The Bonn government has informed West German industry confidentially about the plans as it is expected that Qadhafi's people will want to buy important, apparently harmless, building components in West Germany," it said. The magazine said the bunker, 30 metres below the Libyan desert, could be used as a control centre for rocket attacks.

Israeli army chiefs ignore road rules

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's army, campaigning to stop soldier traffic casualties, has been embarrassed twice in the last month by the driving habits of its top two commanders. Police said Sunday they had clocked Major-General Elad Barak, deputy army chief, driving 97-kilometre speed limit Friday. His ticket was turned over to military police. Three weeks ago Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, the army chief of staff, disobeyed a red light and received a warning from a police woman. The army is worried by data showing more Israeli have died in road accidents than in all Arab-Israeli wars and has urged soldiers to drive carefully. Last week Shomron halted army exercises to devote a day to road and training safety.

Landslide buries houses in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — A landslide buried dozens of houses in northwest Iran and was threatening other villages, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. IRNA said there were no casualties when the slide began but moving earth and debris was heading towards a village near Hashrud town and several hamlets had had to be evacuated as a precaution. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, did not say if the sudden slide was related to an earthquake centred 200 kilometres away which killed about 35,000 people a month ago.

Israeli climbers head for Soviet Union

TEL AVIV (R) — Three Israeli mountaineers left for the Soviet Union Sunday to learn the fate of four Israelis who were among 40 members of an expedition lost in an avalanche last week. The Israeli mountain rescue experts, including two recent Soviet immigrants to Israel, were given permission to observe the recovery operation at Mount Lenin in Soviet Central Asia after Soviet authorities turned down a full-scale rescue team. Three members of the Mount Lenin expedition survived and three bodies have been retrieved. "The purpose of the mission is to find information which has been the most difficult task for those waiting at home since we heard of the disaster," said Sara Manobla, mother of Gabi Manobla, one of the missing Israelis. "At first no permission was given for a full-scale rescue team so we adjusted our request that they would at least allow us to send observers who could if necessary take part in the rescue operation," she told Israeli radio. Israel and the Soviet Union have gradually restored low-level relations in recent years despite the severance of full diplomatic ties by Moscow over the 1967 war.

U.S. considers trade cutoff with Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.-Iraq relations could take another turn for the worse if members of Congress are successful in their drive to cut off virtually all commerce between the two countries.

The Senate Banking Committee last week unanimously approved legislation that would deny agricultural and Export-Import Bank credits to Iraq as well as bar the sale of technological items that could be used by the military.

"It sailed right through committee," said Kansas Senator Nancy Kassebaum, sponsor of the amendment. "I frankly was amazed."

Iraq, a country with 17 million people and the second-largest proven oil reserves in the world, denies human rights charges, levelled against it by the U.S.

Mohammad Ali Mahath, Iraq's ambassador in Washington, says accusations against Iraq are

"simply planned, organised propaganda by the Israeli machinery in the United States."

Kassebaum's measure — an amendment to the Export Administration Act — is likely to be brought to the Senate floor before the August recess because lawmakers must meet a deadline to extend the export act.

Congressman Howard Berman of California is a major player in trying to isolate Iraq.

"Iraq is a country where meaningful sanctions could deter its conduct," he said.

John Kelly, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, said recently the administration of President George Bush is weighing whether to place Iraq back on the list of countries that sponsor "terrorism," a designation that halts shipments of technology to Baghdad. Iraq was taken off the list in 1985.

Iraq has drawn the ire of U.S.

officials for harbouring "terrorists," including Abu Abbas, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) executive committee who claimed responsibility for an aborted, ship-launched attack on Israel in May.

The Iraqi ambassador said his government has no intention of acting against Abbas. "We support the PLO with all the means possible," he said.

The White House moved to block the shipment of three advanced industrial furnaces because officials were worried they would be used for projects relating to nuclear weapons.

While the Bush administration says relations with Iraq are not particularly cordial, it opposes congressional efforts to impose sanctions.

"We want to do it our way," said a state department official, speaking on condition he not be named.

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JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 7311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:45 Programme review

15:55 Children programmes

16:00 News summary

16:10 Local programme

16:20 Programme review

16:30 News in Arabic

16:40 Arabic series

16:50 Programme review

17:00 Local programmes

17:10 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:10 Documentary

19:00 News in French

19:15 Weekly Sport magazine

19:30 News in Hebrew

19:45 Varieties

20:30 Perfect Strangers

21:10 Murder She Wrote

22:00 News in English

22:30 Action in the North Atlantic

PRAYER TIMES

04:49 Fajr

05:40 (Sunrise) Dhuha

12:42 Dhuhur

16:23 'Asr

19:44 Maghrib

21:15 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swiffield Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terramata Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 632441.

Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 717331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 717321.

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.

Armenian International Church Tel. 683326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 611295.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 29 / 34

Aqaba 25 / 40

Deserts 18 / 39

Jordan Valley 24 / 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 24, Aqaba 29, Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim 617090

Dr. We'el Dumayti 774800

Dr. Akram Samhan 894611

Dr. Issa Abu Haider 637123

Fine pharmacy 661912

Feedows pharmacy 776336

Al Aqsa pharmacy 637055

Nainulth pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shmoussi pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Ali Samman (—)

Al Sarsa pharmacy 983238

ZARQA:

Dr. Khalil Abu Hussain (—)

Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence: Immediate 630341

Rescue Police 199

Fire Brigade 391228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 845402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 605800

Police Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 897467

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 731111

Radio Jordan 680100

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53200

Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussien Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalil Maternity, J. Amn 644216

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642412

Jabal Amman Maternity 642402

Mathar, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmoussi 664171/4

Shmoussi Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227/9

The Islamic, Abdali 666277/7

Al-Akhi, Abdali 661646/6

Islamic, Al-Muhajirah 771013

Al-Basrah, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26

Army, Marka 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983223

Zarqa National Hospital (09)91071

Don Sina Hospital (09)98732

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)72555

Great Catholic Hospital (02)72725

Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)47100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:00 Damascus (RJ)

10:15 Riyadh (RJ)

10:20 Dhahran (RJ)

10:30 Cairo (RJ)

10:35 Kuwait (RJ)</



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday chairs a meeting of the board of trustees of the Hashemite Charitable Society for Relief, Development and Arab-Islamic Cooperation (Petra photo).

Prince urges more aid to the needy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday called for intensified efforts on the part of various organisations to provide assistance to the needy, the displaced, the refugees and the less fortunate people in the Arab World.

"The present economic conditions prevailing in the Arab and Islamic countries call for such efforts to ease the suffering of the needy people and to alleviate their distress," said the Prince at a meeting with the members of the board of trustees of the Hashemite Charitable Society for Relief, Development and Arab-Islamic Cooperation.

This society, the Prince added, should be instrumental in spearheading efforts towards providing charity and assistance to the needy.

The society was set up last year to deal with such issues as helping the needy and the victims of natural disasters like drought and famine victims of Sudan.

The society's board of trustees is chaired by Prince Hassan and comprises 15 members. Nine are from Jordan and the rest are from Arab countries.

Former head of the ruling military council in Sudan Abdul

Rahman Swaredhab is one of the board members.

During the meeting which was chaired by Prince Hassan, the members approved the appointment of Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, from Jordan, as secretary-general, endorsed administrative and financial regulations and a plan for the 1990-1991 period.

The board also set up the society's executive committee to be chaired by the Kingdom's General Mufti Izzeddin Al Khatib.

The society's constituent assembly held a meeting here Saturday evening and selected four sub-committees for information, public relations, water and other resources, development and planning of programmes.

The society is to undertake projects which have been initiated and undertaken by the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People, and a Committee for Coordinating Cooperation with the Islamic Nations.

Its immediate projects include charitable plans benefiting needy families, vocational and rehabilitation schemes and income-generating projects in rural areas.

Jordan, Egypt to cooperate in transport, communications

CAIRO (Petra) — Egyptian Minister of State for International Cooperation Maurice Makramallah will arrive in Amman on Tuesday at the head of a team from his ministry and other concerned departments to prepare for a meeting here early next month by the Jordanian-Egyptian higher joint committee.

The joint preparatory committee, which will start its meeting on July 28, is expected to discuss ways for increasing bilateral trade and prospects for cooperation in the chemical fertilisers industry.

"Jordan and Egypt will also discuss training of Jordanian technicians in planning..." and

cooperation in transport and communications as well as the operations of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which is owned in conjunction with Iraq," Makramallah said in a statement.

He said that joint Jordanian-Egyptian projects operating under the umbrella of the \$50-million-capital holding company and the prospects of joining the Egyptian-Jordanian national grid with those of Syria and Turkey will also be reviewed.

The higher committee, which last met in Cairo in January of 1989, is co-chaired by the prime ministers of the two countries.



EGYPT MARKS NATIONAL DAY: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of congratulations to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the occasion of Egypt's National Day. The King wished the Egyptian president continued health and happiness and the Egyptian people further prosperity and progress. In Amman, the Egyptian ambassador Sunday hosted a reception (photo above) to mark the occasion. It was attended by parliament speakers, cabinet members, deputies, diplomats and dignitaries (Petra photo).

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Bechtel (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by Rudeina and Raba Haddad at the Housing Bank Complex hall.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by ten Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery — tel. No. 69914.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings depicting Arabians and other horses by Henri Bury at the Philadelphia Hotel.
- ★ Comprehensive Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University.

FILM

- ★ French film entitled "Le Magnifique" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

JERASH FESTIVAL

- ★ Concerts by the Jordan Armed Forces Band (6:00 - 7:00 p.m.), a local folk troupe (7:00 - 8:00) and a Yemeni folk troupe (8:30 - 9:30 p.m.) at the Forum.
- ★ Poets and poetry at Artank Steps (7:00 - 9:00 p.m.).

Over 50 per cent students pass tawjihi

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Over half the students who sat for the 1989-90 secondary school certificate examinations (tawjihi) have passed and are now eligible to pursue higher education in the country or abroad.

A total of 59,946 students, including those in special studies, sat for the examination and 52.4 per cent have passed, minister of education and higher education Mohammad Hamdan told reporters Sunday. Last year 63.97 per cent passed the examination.

Students in the special studies programme usually study for the examination on their own without school supervision. Almost 44,000 regular students sat for the exam and 62 per cent of them passed. A total of 16,229 special studies students sat for the examination of whom only 25.2 per cent passed.

Those who failed the exam are permitted to repeat the individual subjects they failed during the next scholastic year. They are also allowed to take extra subjects to improve their overall tawjihi average. If they fail for a second year, then they must repeat the entire exam.

According to Hamdan, a total of 59,946 male and female students took the examinations in seven different streams — literature, science, commerce, agriculture, industry, nursing and hotel management.

Tawjihi, a compilation of two examinations, a mid-term and a final, is the sole determining factor for students trying to enter Jordanian universities and colleges. The examination has been criticised by the press and students as being unfair. Some students have said questions in the test were not in the school curricula and were too difficult to answer in the allotted time.

"We take into consideration criticism about the exam," the minister said Sunday. "All the questions in the test are from the classroom curricula," he added.

Another Ministry of Education official noted that there was a committee to assess the difficulty and fairness of the questions in the exam.

Some critics of the examination procedure question the accuracy of the grading system.

The head of the examinations department at the ministry, Abed Al Rahman Shubellat, said that every answer is checked by two persons and then points for each answer are fed into the computer. "The grading system is very accurate, that is why we take such a long time to distribute the results," Shubellat said. The exam results are final and not subject to any reassessment or reevaluation process.

The following is a table of the various streams in the tawjihi

exam, the number of students that sat for the exam and the percentage which passed.

Stream Number of students Total passed (percentage)

Stream	Number of students	Total passed (percentage)
Literature	32,604	45.3
Science	16,419	65.7
Commerce	5,865	49.8
Agriculture	455	73.4
Industry	3,406	52.3
Nursing	1,094	65.6
Hotel Management	103	74.8

Sources at the higher education council said the four Jordanian universities: University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Muta University, University of Science and Technology in addition to Amman University College will admit about 8,300 students. Another 300 students will be admitted to the military branch in Muta and 350 at the Yarmouk University evening classes.

Government and private sector universities are expected to admit 10,000 students, according to last year's admission figures. The 57 colleges in the country can accommodate 18,000 students.

One ministry official said, "there are enough seats for the new graduates but that does not mean the students want them. It is a big problem when everyone wants a professional degree."

The following is a table of the various streams in the tawjihi

Irbid holds GFJW elections

By Marham M. Shalhin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of 9 women representing independent, pan-Arab and leftist trends in the Kingdom were chosen to represent the Irbid chapter of the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW) in the Friday elections.

The lack of publicity given to the elections, observers say, is due to a major row between the Irbid branch of the federation and the Ministry of Social Development over the participation of independent delegates from the GFJW, Irbid branch, at the general conference next month.

"The elections for the local executive committee were not controversial because there was no bloc opposition," said one member of a former executive committee. "What is controversial is an attempt by the Ministry of Social Development to block the participation of approximately 85 independent delegates of the GFJW Irbid branch in the elections of the national executive committee at the general conference scheduled for August 5," she said.

The interpretation of article 12 of the federation's charter by the Ministry of Social Development has caused an uproar in federation circles and the former national executive committee of the GFJW is taking Minister Abdul Ma-

jid Shreideh to court over his interpretation of the article which outlines electoral distribution.

While all 8 municipal branches of the GFJW elected coalitions of independent, pan-Arabist and leftist representatives to the general conference next month, it will be the independent delegates which will have the greater voting strength at the conference as a result of the ministry's interpretation of article 12 of the charter.

Only the Amman and Irbid chapters of the GFJW have registered independent delegates and thus the participation of both branches is seen as vital by federation members.

"Some of us have already expressed our discontent over the interpretation of article 12 of the federation's charter by the ministry, but if we are going to accept that Amman's independent delegates are going to participate then the ones in Irbid should be able to participate as well," said one member of the newly elected executive committee in Amman.

While Amman's 60 independent delegates are Islamist in their orientation, Irbid's 85 independent delegates are independent and pan-Arab in their orientation. "The marked difference between the 'two camps' in their social and political orientation could mean trouble if the ministry is not fair about its interpretation of

the charter," one long time GFJW member said.

Federation members in Amman and Irbid have sent an appeal to the Ministry of Social Development to reverse their decision to scrap the participation of independent delegates from Irbid.

Officials at the ministry said that the registration of the independent delegates in Irbid came outside the official registration period and was thus not valid.

While independent federation observers say that the Ministry of Social Development may be correct they fear that the exclusion of the independent delegates from Irbid may cause a rift in the federation.

"They have to come to an agreement about proportional representation otherwise the women may declare war on the ministry and against each other; it's not exactly what the country needs right now," said a female lawyer who has been a long time member of the federation.

The nine members elected to the executive committee of the Irbid branch of the GFJW are: Samira Hmoud, Fatmeh Obaidat, Amal Sharar, Shamma Haddad, Ferial Khatib, Amira Mirza, Fendia Ameish, Ula Qdah and Dalal Anabawi. The four delegates to the general conference elected Friday were: Fatmeh Obaidat, Amal Sharar, Shamma Haddad and Majdalin Haddad.

Zaben: No hike in medicine prices

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben denied that the Ministry of Health was planning to increase prices of medicine manufactured in Jordan or abroad and announced that the medicine crisis which persisted in the country over the past months is now almost over.

Quoted by Al Rai Arabic daily, the minister said that the prices of medicine have now stabilised thanks to close cooperation between the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) and the local drug stores.

"A few days ago over 150 types of imported medicine reached the local markets and they, like the rest, are sold at reasonable and

fixed prices," Zaben said.

The minister spoke about the medicine crisis on a television programme Saturday evening when he said that nearly 35 per cent of the medicine sold in Jordan was manufactured locally and that nearly 80 per cent of the total drugs used at hospitals were made in Jordan.

JPA President Tayseer Al Homs, who spoke during the television programme, said that the whole crisis will be over in two months when all types of medicines will be available in Jordan.

Homs praised the quality of the Jordanian medicine which, he said, is sold in Arab and foreign countries. He said that under an

agreement reached by the first member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries, Jordan can double its efforts and increase its sales of locally manufactured medicine.

According to the minister, Jordan last year sold JD 28 million worth of medicine to Arab countries and purchased JD 20 million worth of drugs which could not be produced in Jordan and were needed by patients.

The minister expressed hope that the ACC agreement will open the way for the sale of increased amounts of Jordanian medicine not only to Iraq, Egypt and Yemen, Jordan's ACC partners, but also to other Arab states.



MILITARY EXERCISES: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday attended a military exercise performed by one of the formations of the Second Mechanised Division. King Hussein was accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Bin Al Hussein, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zaid Ben

Shaker, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and assistants, in addition to the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force, the Armed Forces Inspector general and senior officers. The King listened to a briefing on the stages of training by the division's commander.

Jordanian, Soviet parliamentarians tackle issues of mutual concern

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament member Taher Al Masri Sunday stressed the important role the Soviet Union can play in exercising pressure on the United States to push the peace efforts forward.

Masri was talking with a visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation currently on a three-day visit to Jordan for talks with Jordanian parliamentarians and officials on the Palestinian question and issues of mutual concern.

Masri praised the close Soviet-Arab relations and the Soviet Union's support of the Arab causes.

Masri talked about the dangers posed to the Arab World by the Soviet Jewish immigration, noting that Israel's policy is one of expansion. He added that Jordan is the first Arab country to feel the dangers because of its location on the first defence line.

The head of the visiting delegation talked about the recent developments in the Soviet Union, including political pluralism, noting that the Soviet Union currently concentrating on developing the Soviet economy with a view to turning it into a market economy.

He pointed out that the Supreme Soviet Council rejects the Soviet Jewish immigration.

The delegation arrived in Amman from Syria where they ended a three-day visit.

The delegation's visit to Jordan is part of a tour which will take them to several countries in the region to explain the new Soviet policy vis-a-vis the Middle East.

Later Sunday Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem received the delegation members and reviewed with them the Soviet-Jordanian relations and the situation in the region in light of the formation of a hardline Israeli government which considers the occupied Arab territories as part of the land of Israel.

Qasem said that Jordan views the Soviet Jewish immigration to the occupied territories as a flagrant violation of the human rights because it is done at the expense of the Palestinian people.

Qasem said that while "we support the right of people to exercise their basic rights including their right to travel and to select the place of domicile, we

view the Soviet Jewish immigration, an encroachment on the rights of the Palestinian people.

"Moreover, such an immigration poses threat to the security of the region and forces the emigres to live in a specific place," he said.

He called for giving the immigrants the right to select the place they wish to immigrate to.

Also Sunday Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar received the delegation members and reviewed with them the latest developments in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Arar said that the developments in the Soviet Union and East Europe should reflect positively on world peace and prosperity and should put an end to the international and regional conflicts.

Arar reviewed the dangers inherent in the Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and called for an end to this immigration which adversely affects the Palestinian people who strive for freedom and independence.

Ministerial committee, geologists to choose dumping site near Ruseifa

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ministerial committee set up to deal with the garbage dumping site within the Ruseifa district will seek the assistance of geologists in its drive to find a new and safer location for the dump away from the city to prevent further pollution of air, water and soil, according to a statement by committee Chairman Sheikh Abdul Baqi Jammo who is also Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs.

Jammo told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the committee will convene on Wednesday to review the situation and will tour the eastern regions of Ruseifa where the dumping site is located, and a far off location which will serve as a new site for the garbage dumping operations.

Garbage collected from Amman, Zarqa and Ruseifa has been dumped in an area close to Ruseifa polluting the atmosphere

and prompting a popular protest in the area last April.

In May an angry crowd of 200 men, women and children had gathered around the garbage dumping ground at Ruseifa and prevented garbage trucks from entering the area for two hours, demanding the immediate removal of the dumping site from the vicinity of the residential area.

Local press reports said that up to the past week there were 7,000 reported medical cases resulting from pollution in Ruseifa, the third largest town in Jordan in terms of population.

Located between Amman and Zarqa, the city, with a population of 250,000 had repeatedly protested to the government over the dumping ground in their vicinity because of the bad smell and the diseases that result from it, particularly affecting children.

The Ministry of Municipal and

Rural Affairs and the Environment had decided to take measures to ensure that no harm was done to public health as a result of the dumping ground.

According to Jammo, geologists will help choose a site where the garbage would not affect the underground water reserves.

The committee comprises minister of municipal and rural affairs and the environment, his secretary-general and the mayors of Zarqa and Ruseifa.

Meanwhile it was announced Sunday that the Jordanian Society for Combating Environment Pollution will hold a meeting in Amman Monday to review achievements of the past year and to introduce amendments to the society's statutes. The society is chaired by Ahmad Obaidat, former prime minister and chairman of the General Commission for Drafting the National Charter.

Workshop aims at promoting tourism

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day tourism marketing workshop was opened at the Hotel Jordan International in Amman Sunday by Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti.

One hundred officials and tour operators from Jordan in addition to a number of international organisations concerned with tourism marketing are taking part in the meetings sponsored by the Private Services Development Project in cooperation with the

Ministry of Tourism and Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration in New York.

In an address at the opening session Kabarti said that the workshop was part of the ministry's plan for restructuring the tourism sector in Jordan in cooperation with local and foreign organisations.

"The ministry aims at increasing investments in the tourism industry, improve tourism

marketing operations, reduce government routine in matters connected with tourism activities and stimulate the Jordanian tourism industry which is a major earner of hard currency," the minister said.

The Private Services Development Project in Jordan is being implemented through the Ministry of Planning and with financing from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Infilitrators

(Continued from page 1)

cated whether they planned to stage attacks in Jordan or attempt to cross the demarcation line.

According to sources quoted by Reuters said the four carried Soviet-made Kalashnikov rifle, silencer-fitted handguns and hand grenades.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran told the Lower House of Parliament earlier this year that there were over 80 infiltrations into Jordan from Syria but they did not all involve political or military objectives. Some infiltrators were trying to smuggle in goods, including cigarettes and sheep.

Jordan and Syria agreed in January during Syrian Prime Minister Mohammad Zoubi's visit to Jordan to cooperate to help prevent border incursions.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King condoles Abu Rishah family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable of condolences to Abu Rishah family over the death of the renowned Arab poet Omar Abu Rishah who died last week in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In his cable the King praised the late poet's loyalty and faithfulness to the Arab causes.

House discussed education laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament's joint Legal and Educational Committee met Sunday under the chairmanship of the House's Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, to discuss the draft revised laws of the Jordanian Universities and the Higher Education.

Ambassadors present credentials

AMMAN (Petra) — Four newly appointed ambassadors to Jordan Sunday handed copies of their credentials to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem prior to officially presenting them to His Majesty King Hussein. The new ambassadors are: Nelson Haddad Hreizi of Chile, Dodo Diyouh of Senegal, Abu Baker Abdullah of Nigeria and John Kondattan of Sri Lanka.

JGIC plans to expand

MAAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Glass Industries Company (JGIC) located near Maan in southern Jordan sold 5,400 tonnes of glass products to Arab countries and Jordanian markets in the first half of 1990 and there are plans for further expansion to increase exports, according to company Director Mashour Al Widian.

"The company has prepared plans for boosting its production and increasing exports to other countries," said Widian in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said that 25 per cent of the factory's production is sold on Jordanian markets while the rest is mostly marketed in Arab states.

The planned expansion, he

said, entails among other things producing crystal at a special unit and the creation of a glass complex which can increase the production of tinted and plain glass, both of which are in great demand in the Arab World.

"Nearly 80 per cent of the raw materials used in the glass industry are produced in Jordan and most of the workers and engineers are from Maan and the southern regions of the country," Widian added.

Last year the company sold nearly 12,000 tonnes of glass, earning the country some JD 500,000, following losses in the

previous four years largely due to technical reasons.

According to company manager Farhi Obaid, the factory's production is sold to Egypt, Iraq, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Kuwait and Morocco in addition to the local markets.

According to Widian, the company started producing tinted glass in 1987 in view of the high demand on the international market for this product.

Widian said the company now employs 285 engineers, technicians and workers, most of whom come from the southern regions of the Kingdom.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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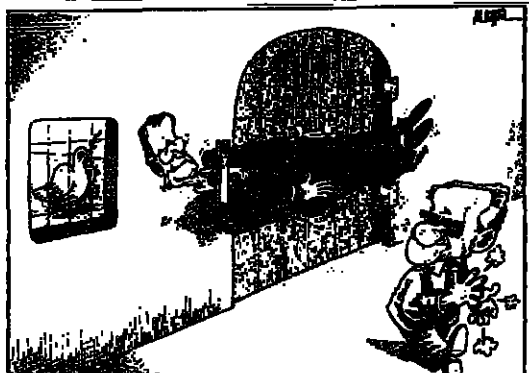
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Better breathing

THE ENVIRONMENT protection committee in Russeifa Saturday held a meeting to discuss the ecological problems caused by the Russeifa garbage dumping site. The site is located on a hill not far from the centre of the town. The hill used to be a mine of phosphate. The ad hoc committee comprises deputies, citizens and one minister. After the meeting Sheikh Abdul Baqi Jammo, minister of state for parliamentary affairs, stressed the importance of closing the Russeifa dumping site and moving it away from the town. He proposed sending cables to the prime minister, ministers and deputies urging the closure of the site. Earlier this year mothers in Russeifa organised a sit-in protest in front of the dumping site and demanded its removal. The site is used for dumping from Amman, Zarqa and Russeifa, comprising almost half of Jordan's population. University of Jordan Professor Elias Salameh, an expert on water in the country, maintains that sewage treatment plants, scattered all over Jordan's highlands, and garbage dumping sites, dotting the country's landscape, are responsible for the pollution of the Kingdom's underground water resources.

It is no secret that the country's, indeed the region's, water resources are scarce. The Russeifa dumping site sits on the bank of the Zarqa River and all the "jokes" from the garbage of 1.5 million people must seep into the river basin and pollute its water springs and ultimately the King Talal Dam waters.

Ecological and pollution problems in Jordan are becoming urgent with each passing day. The Department of Environment at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment seems to have no power to confront all other departments, factories and municipal councils that are responsible for the problem. The Society for Protection of the Environment needs all the support it deserves to help it in its mission and endeavours to formulate policies and gather the data needed for its campaigns. Perhaps one or all of our universities should adopt a programme to tackle the problem and have its students and professors carry out research on the issue and propose solutions. The government, understandably busy with much urgent and mundane problems, should accord the matter high priority. Our environment of desert and scarce water should not be left to become even more hostile. Our increasing numbers need and deserve a better breathing space.



ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily newspaper said Sunday that the intensification of Arab efforts to defuse the tension in the Gulf following the Iraqi-Kuwaiti row points to the fact that Arab leaders are aware of the danger of foreign intervention. The Arab leaders in general and the Arab League in particular are keen to contain the issue and close the door to any "intervention which could come under the pretext of ensuring the continuous flow of oil, the paper noted. It goes without saying that the Arab countries are keen on doing all they can to prevent any foreign hegemony from being imposed on the Arab World, and also keen on solving the issue peacefully. Therefore, it said, they are now very active indeed to bring the whole issue to an end, the paper added. Referring to the contacts made with each of Kuwait and Iraq by King Hussein and the other heads of the Arab Cooperation Council, the paper said that they are clear indications that the Arabs want a speedy solution which would thwart all hostile attempts to tamper with the Arab World's security and stability.

Al Dustour daily commented on Prime Minister Mudar Badran's statement in Parliament in which he tackled the problem of unemployment. The long discussion, the minister of labour's statement and above all the prime minister's lengthy speech reflected first of all a cohesion between the legislative and executive authorities in the country towards handling pressing socio-economic issues, said the paper. It is clear that the government is trying hard to find a solution to the problem by enhancing public confidence in the national economy, by stabilising the exchange rates of the local currency and by implementing an economic restructuring programme, the paper noted. The paper expressed deep satisfaction with the prime minister's emphasis on the need to find a long term solution for the problem rather than introducing temporary formulas which can only ease the pain a little but fail to solve the problem. Referring to the Ministry of Labour's measures in this respect, the paper said that such moves are bound to stabilise the labour market and help the country absorb larger numbers of local workers to replace foreigners.

Sawt Al Shaab daily for its part warned against a deepening of rifts among Arab countries and said that foreign hostile forces are lying in wait, and threatening the Arabs with all forms of evil. Ever since Iraq announced its military capability to the world, and threatened to wipe out half of Israel should the latter launch an attack on any Arab state, these hostile forces, represented in the U.S.-Israeli alliance, have been active in the region, launching campaigns against Iraq and fishing for an excuse to launch an aggression, the paper noted. It said that the present dispute in the Gulf can offer these forces their chance to interfere, a chance that should be denied through real solidarity among Arabs and speedy efforts to defuse tension.

WEEKLY POLITICAL PULSE

Sharon — a tiger acting like a snake

TIGERS do not change the colour of their skins and Israeli Minister for Housing Ariel Sharon is not about to make a round about face about his inner motivations. Sharon's apparent yielding to international pressure, mostly American, not to house Soviet Jews in the occupied territories is only tactical. There is obviously more than the eye can see in Sharon's sudden burst of "reasonableness." By opting to settle the newly arrived immigrants in the Galilee first, Negev second, Sharon is only setting his list of priorities according to a timetable that

would make the West Bank his step on the way to expelling as many Palestinians as possible from these territories. By concentrating on the Galilee first, Sharon has targeted two objectives: First, to dilute the Arab concentration in Northern Israel, and second, drive them slowly to the West Bank.

Thus far, the high percentage of Palestinians in Northern Israel has been a sore point in Israel's security plans. And with the intifada drawing more and more on the support of the Arab population in Israel, Sharon is determined to neutralise the potency of this sup-

port from within Israel by drowning them in a sea of newly arrived Jewish immigrants. The West Bank will escape the impact of the Soviet Jewish immigrants only temporarily and only until Sharon finishes his objectives as far as the Arab Galilee is concerned.

But this is not all, Sharon is using his new tools made available to him by his new duties to upstage other Israeli leaders hoping or aspiring to become the next prime minister of Israel. It goes without saying that by resettling millions of Jewish immigrants, Sharon

would be building up a huge constituency on which to draw for political strength in the future. With the peace process heading no where, and the international attention being diverted to East-West relations, the Middle East issues have become mere footnotes on international news tickers, albeit we in the Middle East still entertain the thought that we and our region are the centre of the universe. It is time, therefore, to make a comprehensive reappraisal of the Arab options in view of the various scenarios being con-

templated for us whether by Sharon or like-minded enemies of the Arab Order. It is too much to expect the Palestinian intifada to accomplish what the entire Arab countries have failed to do thus far. Other mechanisms need to be instituted to come to the rescue of the Palestinian cause in particular and the general concerns of the Arab World. Israel is not about to midge in favour of reasonable accommodations with the Arab side and if anything their posture has hardened for the worse. No amount of romanticism can be

a substitute for a cool-headed calculations. There is obviously an urgent need for a new Arab strategy that would incorporate the Palestinian objectives into it. It has been said over and over again in the past that the Arab World needs a think-tank mechanism to analyse the Arab options. We have been choosing the easier way out till this point in time by aiming for the moon when our situation can not uplift us to much lower heights. It is high time that we think also in terms of stages rather than in one leap towards our goals.

Egypt, PLO cross swords in Middle East power play

By John Fullerton
Reuters

CAIRO — Egypt and PLO leader Yasser Arafat are at daggers drawn, only months after they were closely co-ordinating a strategy for Middle East peace.

"Excuse me, Yasser Arafat, the Egyptian people will not be happy to receive you tomorrow or after tomorrow," said a front-page headline in Saturday's afternoon daily Al-Messara.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman was expected in Cairo this week. Official sources said they did not yet know if the war of words would force a postponement.

But Cairo-based diplomats believe the furor, while it may simmer for some time, will pass.

"I don't believe (Egypt's President Hosni) Mubarak is going to go so far as to cut ties with the PLO. It's a love-hate relationship," said an Egyptian envoy.

The diplomats said the row stemmed partly from frustration felt by both parties in failing to gain Israeli backing for proposed talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

Another important element, they said, was a shift in inter-Arab politics with Iraq emerging as bellicose champion of Arab rights and with Egypt and Syria mending a 13-year rift.

"I think both Iraq and the PLO were unhappy at (Syrian President Hafez) Al-Assad's reconciliation visit to Egypt eight days ago," said an Egyptian political analyst.

Syria and Iraq have been at daggers drawn for 20 years and the largely ideological rift has been widened by personal animosity between the two countries' leaders.

Syria and the PLO fell out during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Diplomats said that since the

PLO's formation in 1964, it had to learn to cope with attempts at manipulation by Arab powers.

In turn, Arafat had learned to survive by playing one Arab capital off against another and ensuring he had at least one powerful ally at any one time.

Iraq has long backed the PLO. Cairo's state-owned daily newspapers have for three days carried front-page editorials attacking Arafat for remarks he is reported to have made about Egypt's close ties with

"Cairo's state-owned daily newspapers have for three days carried front-page editorials attacking Arafat for remarks he is reported to have made about Egypt's close ties with Washington. They reported Arafat telling Arab foreign ministers in Tunis that Washington was very generous in its aid to Israel, 'while American aid to Egypt has reached the point where Egypt gets wheat week by week'."

Washington. They reported Arafat telling Arab foreign ministers in Tunis that Washington was very generous in its aid to Israel, "while American aid to Egypt has reached the point where Egypt gets wheat week by week."

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was also quoted as joining in the criticism of Egypt and its ties with the United States. Aziz, due to arrive in Cairo on Sunday to discuss Iraq's row with Kuwait,

said on Saturday he had been misunderstood.

Cairo is the largest recipient of U.S. civil and military aid after Israel, receiving \$2.1 billion annually.

Egypt-PLO relations have long seen-sawed from hostility to warmth, echoing the shifts in Middle East power politics.

Ties were cut in 1979 when Egypt became the only Arab state to make peace with Israel. They were restored in 1983 after Syrian forces drove Arafat and his men from Tripoli in Lebanon.

In 1987 Mubarak ordered PLO offices in Cairo closed after an Egyptian delegation stormed out of a Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers, because it considered a resolution on PLO-Egyptian ties too critical of Cairo.

Relations returned to a normal footing seven months later and reached a new peak of understanding in 1988, when Arafat recognised Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism.

For Mubarak, that move represented a welcome endorsement of Egypt's cherished view that negotiation, not armed confrontation, holds the key to lasting Middle East peace.

Arafat became a frequent visitor to Cairo, working with Mubarak on proposals to bring Palestinians and Israelis together to discuss the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation added a sense of urgency to their efforts.

Despite strong support from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the joint diplomacy stalled when Israelis formed the most rightwing government in the Jewish state's history.

Washington suspended its 18-month dialogue with the PLO after a dissident Palestinian faction launched a seaborne assault on an Israeli beach on May 30. Israel was delighted, Egypt dismayed by the U.S. decision.

EC to probe Israeli desire for peace under rightists

By Jack Redden
Reuters

JERUSALEM — Three European Community foreign ministers arrive in Israel on Monday to find out if Israel's new rightwing government is serious about Middle East peace.

The overnight visit by the foreign ministers of Italy, Ireland and Luxembourg, the first major probe of the hardline government's views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, was coordinated with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

"It quite suits the United States for the European Community to be front-runners in this," a senior European diplomat said.

Baker was involved in fruitless efforts to arrange talks between Israel and Palestinians in Cairo earlier this year.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's broad-based government collapsed in March because he refused to agree to talks. Then, instead of a more liberal government emerging, as Washington hoped, Shamir assembled the most rightwing administration in Israel's history.

Italy's Gianni De Michelis, Ireland's Gerry Collins and Luxembourg's Jacques Poos will arrive late on Monday and leave for a meeting with the Arab League in Tunis early on Tuesday.

Their visit is the first test of Foreign Minister David Levy, recovering from a heart attack suffered after he took up his post last month. Baker has invited Levy to Washington on Aug. 9-10.

Levy had openly opposed even the reluctant steps toward peace taken by the previous government but as foreign

minister he has so far avoided a confrontation with Washington.

"They're coming basically to listen; to size up Levy on the peace process," the diplomat said.

Despite Levy's rightwing image he has proved a pragmatist in the past — he voted for an Israeli military withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985 — and he believes it is important to improve Israel's tarnished reputation in the traditionally friendly West.

"The EC has long advocated an international conference on the Middle East and a greater role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, proposals that are anathema to Israel. U.S. thinking may be moving nearer the EC position."

The United States gives some three billion dollars in annual aid to Israel and the European Community buys more than half of Israel's exports.

Israeli officials complain the EC is using economic pressure for political goals. Publicly the European Community denies it, but privately its officials say all countries use economic muscle.

The EC scaled down scientific cooperation earlier this

year to show disapproval of Israeli policy towards the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who have been in revolt against the Israeli occupation for 31 months.

It also stepped up direct aid to the occupied areas; to rise fourfold to 12 million euros (\$15 million) by 1992.

The EC is about to appoint a representative to oversee that aid, although vehement Israeli opposition to opening a new office in a Palestinian area means it will probably be attached to an existing EC office in Tel Aviv.

But most important for Israel is a shift in the EC approach to the Middle East, which in the past has produced declarations of principle with little influence.

The EC decided it could have more impact by working closely with the United States, by far the dominant power in the region. A U.S.-EC policy session in Brussels in June was devoted entirely to the Middle East.

"We know the United States has close contacts with the Europeans," said a senior Israeli official. "Baker's meetings with European colleagues on a number of occasions recently," a senior Israeli official said when asked if the EC foreign ministers were coordinating with Washington.

The EC has long advocated an international conference on the Middle East and a greater role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, proposals that are anathema to Israel. U.S. thinking may be moving nearer the EC position.

Certainly Washington will listen closely when the EC ministers report their conclusion on whether Levy is prepared to end the delays that frustrated Baker's peace efforts.

Tolerance is not so easily accepted

By John Owen-Davies
Reuters

ANKARA — A vigorous call for Turkey's 10 million Kurds to be given ethnic rights has thrown the political spotlight on an issue that challenges a tenet of the modern republic's founder, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

The call by the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) is designed partly to reduce Kurdish separatist violence that has claimed nearly 2,500 lives since mid-1984.

"The SHP will allow the means for citizens who accept the Kurdish identity and call themselves Kurds to express this identity freely and as they wish in all walks of life," the party said in a report released this week.

Among other things it urged freedom for Kurds to use their own language.

The call has received a mixed reaction, ranging from support to a state security court inquiry, derision and accusations of opportunism by a party which last year expelled seven deputies for attending a Kurdish conference in Paris.

"The official language is Turkish. We must not stray outside this," President Turgut Ozal said.

Columnist Altan Oymen, writing in the liberal daily Milliyet, said: "We hope others will follow in the SHP's steps and create a constructive atmosphere for debate on the issue."

Esat Kiritligoglu, a senior official of the centre-right True Path Party, said the SHP's judgment was wrong. "There is no language problem in the southeast."

Turkey does not recognise its

Kurds, who make up nearly one fifth of the population, as an ethnic minority.

"They are among an estimated 17 million Kurds who live in border areas of Iran, Iraq, the Soviet Union and Syria and speak a number of Iranian languages closely related to Persian."

At the heart of the SHP's proposal on language is a law whose contents have been accepted since shortly after the Turkish republic was founded in 1923.

"Indulging in any activity involving the utilisation and propagation of languages other than Turkish as a mother tongue... is prohibited," the law states.

In a major attack on the law, SHP said such an arrangement was "primitive."

"This legal mechanism, which denies the realities of our country and of our age, has ignored the fact that the peoples of the world as well as our own people speak in their native languages as well as the official language."

In the southeast, where most of Turkey's Kurds live, Kurdish is widely heard but nobody apparently knows if and when they will be prosecuted for speaking their mother tongue.

Ozal, asked if Kurds would ever be able to say openly "we are Kurds," answered: "this must be dealt with very carefully. It begins and will be followed by other things."

He was reflecting official concern at a time when the old East-West order is crumbling and Ankara sees itself under threat from outside influences.

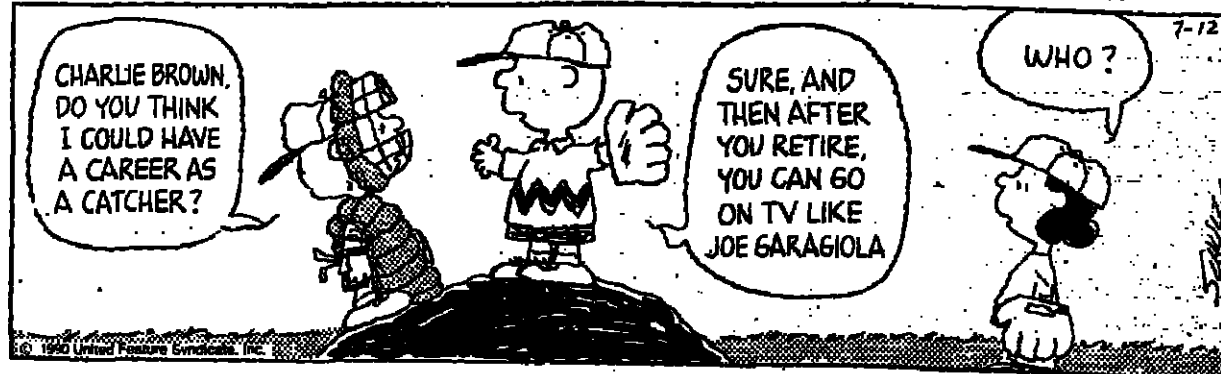
Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Long standing labour dispute still unsolved

'The show won't be over until the results are in'

By Marwan M. Shabib
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A long standing dispute which caused a deep rift within the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions (FJU) three months ago has gone before an independent investigating body, and authorities are hopeful that the schism that threatens to undermine the Kingdom's umbrella organisation for the labour union movement will be resolved before the end of the year.

The dispute which involves charges and counter-charges of illegal membership and unproportional representation are being studied by the Federation of Arab Labour Unions (FALU), which sent a fact finding mission, headed by the federation's President Hassan Jamam, to Jordan in May.

"By the end of the year all the recommendations should be available," Minister of Labour Qasem Obeidat said. "Since the issue is being studied by an independent body, it is very unlikely that the recommendations will be unsatisfactory to any party in the dispute."

In an agreement signed by several, but not all, parties in the conflict on May 22 of this year, the FALU outlined a series of changes in the federation's agenda, some of which have already gone into effect. Authorities say that the changes are basically aimed at satisfying disgruntled unionists.

Meanwhile a spokesman for the democratic labour group, a 27-member bloc within the federation which split from the mainstream last April, contends that the dispute in the federation is far from being solved or even addressed.

The democratic labour group contends that the amendments made as a result of the FALU engagement in the dispute, referring to the May 22 agreement, are as illegal as the federation's actions that they originally objected to.

"Two wrongs don't make a right," said the information spokesman of the group, Youssef Hourani.

The group contends that the addition of three more representatives to the existing 14-member executive committee amounts to co-optation of disgruntled unionists and "more importantly violates the federation's regulations which limit the executive committee members to a maximum of 15."

The decision to increase the members of the executive committee to 17 came about as a result of the May 22 agreement. Confusion surrounds the appointment because the three newly appointed members to the executive committee were among the leaders of democratic labour group.

Hourani charges that "the FALU thought it could settle the conflict by co-opting some of the leaders of the dissenting group, leave the democratic group without a leadership and thus the dispute without addressing the 'real' issues."

Public officials are shocked at what they see as complete mistrust by some of the labour union members. "To think that even an independent body was literally cheating Jordanian workers out of their rights is a preposterous accusation," said one Labour Ministry official.

The issues involved in the conflict are twofold. The first involves charges of illegal membership.

Two memos, copies of which were made available to the Jordan Times, which were sent to the prime minister last May from the minister of labour outlined the irregularities and illegalities of the federation's central council and executive committees affairs. In the two memos the minister of labour clearly indicated that representation and the legal status of the representatives of four labour unions was questionable.

The unions in question represent the largest labour unions in the country. The largest union in the federation, the Land Transportation Union with an estimated 90,000 members, is under attack from officials and unionist alike for its obligatory membership which is contrary to labour law.

"The union doesn't issue public licenses to someone who is not in the union, so automatically the individual has to become a member if he wants to work. This is contrary to the labour law which says union membership is voluntary," explained one unionist.

The other three unions which have come under sharp scrutiny for illegalities are the Air Transport Union, the Railway Union and the Municipalities Union. While the labour union law states that one cannot serve as a labour union representative and be a government employee, the representatives of the three unions have violated this law. Over half of those serving on the executive committees of the three unions are government employees.

Some dissenting unionists claim that while three unions have historically been dominated by leftists or communists, the federation has otherwise been dominated by unionists "close to the government or Islamists for the last two decades."

"Through manipulation and the changing of some laws, certain forces have been able to dominate the federation for a long time," said one veteran unionist who calls himself a leftist.

While very few unionists deny the influence "pro-establishment" unionists in the federation's ruling body, the representation of the Muslim Brotherhood has traditionally been limited to the Union of Private Education.

Union observers say that as a result of the democratic changes in the country, the "establishment unionists" no longer felt they had to appease anyone through positions on the central council, so they decided to leave the communists out this time."

Democratic bloc members say that they feel cheated by some of their fellow leftists for delinquency in their united stand and joining the new executive committee and thus weakening the bloc.

Meanwhile former spokesman of the democratic group and one of the appointed executive committee members, Haidar Rashid, a leftist, who is president of the Banking, Insurance and Accounting Employees Association, denies that he and his other associates have defected from the group.

"The whole issue is still under investigation and we are waiting for the results of the investigation that the FALU is making," Rashid said. He denied that any "pact" had been struck vis-a-vis the membership of the three communist union heads in the new executive committee.

The democratic labour group was formed in April after chaos hit the thirty-six year old federation, which represents over 140,000 Jordanian workers. The

bloc, originally consisting of 39 members, including ten out of 17 union presidents, refused to participate in the elections for the executive council in April. The bloc contended that the make-up of the 14-member executive committee and the 95-member central council was unrepresentative of Jordanian workers.

When elections were held despite their boycott and 56 members of the federation's 95 member central council elected the federation's 14-member executive committee, the bloc issued the following memo which outlined their objections.

The memo: — Contested the legality of the then newly elected executive committee and declared all decisions taken by it as null and void;

— Called for freezing the membership of the leadership of the federation in all local, pan-Arab and international organisations and forums;

— Called for freezing all funds of the federation to contest the committee's handling of the federation's finances;

— Called an immediate investigation into the committee's dealings, financial and otherwise;

— Called on members of the federation who have not violated the labour law to serve as a caretaker committee which would supervise the transitional period pending reform.

The 39 central council members, who signed the above memo and made up the democratic bloc, were affiliated with a wide variety of political trends. They included leftists, communists, pan-Arabists, Islamists and independents.

According to FJU observers, the break away marked the first "open and organised" move of dissent in the country's largest labour union grouping since Jordan began its democratic era last November.

For almost 20 years there have been complaints about certain groups controlling the federation, but the lack of a democratic platform and the tight control that the government had on the federation made it almost impossible to contest the status quo," one observer of the federation noted.

While longtime members of the central council contend that different political trends were always represented in the federation, other unionists disagree.

Unionists affiliated with pan-Arab and leftist groups contend that illegal activities have been responsible for irregularities in the federation since 1972.

"In 1972 the then Ministry of Social Welfare and Labour appointed the federation's executive committee in order to avoid the possible election of an 'undesirable' executive body," said one pan-Arab unionist. "That step was illegal," he said.

Unionists point out that the federation's law clearly states that the executive committee should be elected by the central council and "not appointed by anyone."

"At the time," another leftist unionist says, "the government co-opted the communists by promising them seats on the central council."

Members of non-communist leftist groups — pan-Arabists and independents — say that the communists were co-opted by the ruling forces in the federation in 1972 to "split the active opposition as well as to give the impression that there was representation of at least one non-pro-establishment trend," one unionist said.

Meanwhile communist members of the federation vehemently deny the accusation which they say defames communists in Jordan who have "suffered greatly since political parties were banned in the Kingdom in 1957."



While communists have headed up to four unions at a time and thus always had members in the 95-member central council, they insist that their relatively strong representation in the federation is due to popular support and not co-optation.

The federation's quest for proportional representation and democratic structuring lies in the hands of the FALU, according to union members and government officials. While the dissenting group which represents a major portion of the federation's representative body continues to question the "legality and democratic nature" of the FALU intentions, observers conclude that the "show won't be over until the results are in."



Academic standards in Japanese schools have long been the envy of educationalists worldwide, but critics say the strict discipline often does more harm than good.

Disciplining childhood into submission

By Yuka Hayashi
Reuters

TOKYO — Japan's education system has come under sharp criticism after a teacher slammed shut a school gate to make a point about lateness and fatally injured a 15-year-old girl pupil.

Academic standards in Japanese schools have long been the envy of educationalists worldwide, but critics say the strict discipline often does more harm than good.

Ryoko Ishida of Kobe-Takatsuka High School in Kobe in western Japan was running into school on July 6 with other pupils who were late when a teacher slammed shut a metal gate as the bell struck 8:30 a.m.

Ishida's head was crushed between the gate and a brick wall and she died a few hours later, police said.

The 39-year-old teacher who shut the gate, now under police investigation on suspicion of negligence, says he did not know Ishida was there.

The incident gained wide media attention. The evening television news programme News Station gave it top billing every night for a week.

"It's hard to go to the next topic with tears welling up in my eyes," the programme's presenter told viewers one night.

Public criticism has focused on schoolmaster Aisao Nomura, who himself has blamed Ishida's death on tardy students.

"This grievous accident would not have happened if you all had come to the school only 10 minutes earlier," Nomura told Ishida's classmates a few days after her death.

News Station received more than 300 telephone calls from viewers after it reported the incident.

"About 90 per cent of callers

wanted schools to change, while the other 10 per cent argued they can't discipline students without keeping a tight grip on them," said News Station's producer, Toshio Fukuda.

"This kind of accident can happen at any time, anywhere and at any level of school in Japan," said Susumu Abe, an independent commentator on education.

"Japanese education is made for people who teach but not for the people who want to learn."

At Ishida's school, students regularly dash through the gate just before the morning bell to avoid having to do laps of the running track — the punishment for being late.

When the incident took place, two other teachers were standing outside the gate to make sure pupils were dressed properly, a police spokesman said.

Pupils at most public and private Japanese middle and high schools must carry school rule books which regulate their lives down to the smallest detail, including length of skirts.

Many schools try to regulate after-school life by prohibiting students from going to fast food restaurants alone or seeing students of the opposite sex.

Abe said it would be very difficult to change a system that has been successful for more than 100 years.

"Now that Japan is a major world (economic) power, teachers are even more confident that what they've done was correct," Abe said.

But some parents will do almost anything to keep their children out of the education system.

"It's so depressing to even imagine my kid going to a bleak place like a Japanese school," said a mother of a three-year-old boy in Tokyo. "I'd rather send him overseas."

By Kathy Gannon
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Fundamentalists have won a round against secularism, slipping a bill on Islamic law through the senate while the government wasn't looking, and liberal Pakistanis worry about what lies ahead.

Critics of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto say she was outmanoeuvred. The few senators belonging to her left-of-centre Pakistan People's Party, including her law minister, were absent when the bill passed unanimously in May.

Her government, the first in a modern Islamic nation led by a woman, is expected to stall until

the senate elections of March 1991 in hopes of winning control of the chamber. The Pakistan People's Party controls the national assembly, where the real power lies.

"It's depressed me immensely," Anna Piracha, a friend of Ms. Bhutto and a national assembly member, said of the senate action. She added, however: "there are many ways we can tackle it."

Opponents of the Sharia bill fear the power it will give Islamic clerics, who would interpret law according to their reading of the Quran the Muslims holy book. Sharia is the term used for Islamic law.

Women have been particularly

vocal, concerned about losing what little ground they have gained in recent years.

Piracha and Sher Afghan, former minister of state for parliamentary affairs, spoke of several options, mostly designed to stall the bill in the national assembly.

It must be introduced in the assembly within 90 days of Senate passage. Bhutto's 19-month-old government is expected to refer it either to a committee or the Islamic ideology council, which her predecessor, Gen. Mohammed Zia Ul Haq, established to debate theological questions.

Butto often has agreed to a form of Islamic law on condition Pakistan's religious leaders reach

a consensus, which many in her party consider unlikely.

Supporters and critics alike say Bhutto must take care with Islamic fundamentalists, whose violent riots in 1977 eventually brought down her father, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

He was convicted of conspiring to murder a political foe, who was not killed, and was hanged in 1979. Gen. Zia, who overthrew him, held power until his death in a plane crash in August 1988.

"Politically, they cannot afford to throw" the bill out, Khurshid Ahmed said of the governing party. "They would be sounding their death knell."

Ahmed leads the small but powerful Jamaat-I-Islami, or Par-

ty of God, which is said to have organised the rioting in 1977. He told the Associated Press history could be repeated if Bhutto's government tried to kill the legislation.

"We may call for mid-term elections," Ahmed said, "or we may even call for a mass movement against" the Pakistan People's Party.

The Prime Minister, who wears the traditional Islamic head covering and is seldom seen without a voluminous shawl, has been criticised by women activists for what they call her attempt to be "more religious than the mullahs," or Islamic clerics.

Fundamentalist Islamic scholars dismiss Bhutto's conservative

conduct. Ahmed said she "represents a secular trend, whatever Islamic window-dressing she puts on."

He said women who opposed Islamic law "Westernised, alienated" and had "no knowledge of Islam."

Women wearing billowing shawls that covered them from head to foot protested two years ago when Zia proposed that Sharia be adopted in his quest to "Islamise" this nation of 110 million. He died before the legislation could be passed.

Islamic law would supersede Pakistan's Muslim family law, which guarantees equal inheritance rights and governs child custody.

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Jordan Times

Enthusiastic, talented youngsters represent Jordan at international baseball competition

By Rami G. Khouri
Jordan Times
Baseball Correspondent

AMMAN — With six weeks of hard practice behind them, "Jordan" emblazoned on their shirts, and much determination, self-confidence and hope in their hearts, a 14-strong team of young baseball players from Jordan departs for Frankfurt, Germany, Sunday to participate in the first round of the worldwide Little League regional playoffs.

This is the second consecutive year in which a team from Jordan participate in the international championship playoffs, making baseball the latest sport in which young athletes from Jordan continue to expand their presence in international sports competitions.

The Jordanian team comprises 14 boys aged 10 to 12 years, representing the best players from this spring's Amman Little League baseball season, which saw a total of over 350 boys and girls compete in 23 teams divided into four divisions.

The team includes 7 Jordanians, 5 Americans, a Lebanese and a Dane — Adi Afani, George Sahyoun, Elias Kassar, Moussa Khelifeh, Jamil Zaba, Elias Dabbas, Ramzi Abdalla, Leith Abu Shaar, Jonathan Hart, Daniel Gustafson, Troy Gustafson, Peter Martinez, B.J. Oliver, and Rene Greve. They are accompanied by a three-man coaching staff of Head Coach Kim Gustafson, Capt. Frank Gebert, and Pete Martinez.

During the past six weeks, the team and a select number of younger, 9 to 10-year-old, baseball players practiced together five times a week to prepare for the Germany playoffs, with assistance from a battery of other coaches, including Amman Little League baseball commissioner Maher Khalifeh, Mark Gordon, Tom Shelene, Rami G. Khouri, Andy Kerr, George Conklin, Darold Thomas, and Randy Cummings, all of whom volunteered their time and expertise.

Starting with the first game on Aug. 28, the Jordan baseball team will play an initial eight games against teams from

the Europe-Mediterranean region, whose winners will travel to the United States later this summer for the worldwide championships.

"The boys have been terrific," notes head coach Gustafson, "practicing five days a week to reach a level of skill and positive attitude that has already generated much pride in themselves, their Amman Little League colleagues, their coaches, their families, and the country of Jordan which they represent with skill and dignity."

Baseball commissioner Maher Khalifeh echoed that sentiment when he said at the end of the last regular practice Saturday: "We go to Germany with much excitement, a lot of hope, and a commitment to play our hearts out on the baseball diamond. These boys have shown a dedication, a willingness to work hard and to learn, and a team spirit which exemplify the highest ideals of Little League competition. They're already winners in my book, regardless of the final scores at the end of the day in Germany."

With baseball scheduled to become an Olympic sport at the next Olympics, Khalifeh says, "we see this effort as laying the groundwork for raising standards, expanding the pool of players and coaches, and increasing our participation in this sport in future years."

In last year's game in Germany, under the direction of then head coach Paul Plemmons, the Jordanian team won two games and lost four — a very respectable performance given the fact that baseball is such a new sport in Jordan, and has very rudimentary facilities compared with most of the other countries competing in Germany.

The Amman Little League was formally launched in 1984, and now includes organized competition for 5-18-year-olds in football (soccer), baseball and basketball. About 80 per cent of all Little League participants in Amman are Jordanians, with the rest coming from a score of other countries.

Agassi beats Chang as Gilbert bows to Grabb

WASHINGTON (R) — Top-seed Andre Agassi whipped Michael Chang Saturday in the semifinals of the \$550,000 Washington Tennis Classic but second-seed Brad Gilbert came up short against Jim Grabb.

Agassi moved into the finals with a convincing 6-3, 6-1 win over the fifth-seeded Chang while Grabb triumphed in a see-saw 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 contest interrupted by a five-hour rain delay.

Agassi, the world's fourth-ranked player, improved his career edge over Chang to 4-0 in the first

of the semifinals between four of the leading U.S. players.

He toyed with his opponent throughout the predominantly baseline duel, constantly keeping the 23rd-ranked Chang chasing the ball.

Agassi, in his first tournament since losing in the French Open final, romped through the second set, breaking Chang in the first game with a powerful overhead. He broke through again in the fifth game with a backhand cross-court pass.

Sanchez, Durie reach Newport women's final

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — Arantza Sanchez Vicario of Spain cruised to an easy victory over American Gretchen Magers Saturday to earn a meeting with unseeded Briton Jo Durie in the final of the Virginia Slims of Newport Tennis Tournament.

The top-seeded Sanchez mixed strong groundstrokes with an aggressive serve and volley game to beat Magers 6-3, 6-2. Durie won eight of the last nine games to oust Anne Smith of the United States 6-4, 6-1 and gain her first final in seven years.

The 18-year-old Sanchez qualified for her sixth final of the year but she has won only one, on clay in Barcelona. The Newport tournament is being played on grass.

"I played unbelievably, the best I played all week," Sanchez said.

"She played a great match, she was really solid," the fifth-seeded Magers said.

Sanchez, the 1989 French Open champion, survived service

breaks in the first and fifth games of the first set which she took by breaking Magers in the eighth game.

The Spaniard broke Magers in the first and third games of the second set, lost her own serve in the fourth but broke back in the seventh as she swept to the final with a surprisingly crisp serve and volley game.

"I am very confident in my serve and volley," said Sanchez. "I was surprised at how effective she was," Magers agreed.

Durie, who will turn 30 July 27, is playing in a singles final for the first time since 1983 when she won twice and was a runnerup once in achieving a ranking of number six in the world. She has since dropped to 127.

"For me, this is worth all the hard work, the tears, depression and injuries I've gone through," Durie said.

"There's no pressure on me at all. I'll try as hard as I can and see what happens," Durie said of her chances in the final.

Surprise winner, loser appear at Goodwill Games

SEATTLE, Washington (R) — A surprise winner and a surprise loser marked competition on the second day of the Goodwill Games, which ended with a two-hour welcoming celebration that drew a crowd of 70,000 to Husky Stadium Saturday.

Aerial displays, tribal dancing, rock music and messages from U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev along with a keynote speech by former U.S. President Ronald Reagan filled the welcoming programme for the 17-day competition.

The ceremony was rather predictable, draped in a big production number style that has become standard for the opening of major, multi-sport international events these days.

Results at the King County Aquatics Centre and from the streets of Seattle were not so routine.

Janet Evans, the three-time Olympic gold medalist, was the surprise loser of the day, falling to her future college teammate Summer Sanders in the 400-metre individual medley.

It was the first time since 1986 that Evans had lost a 400-metre individual medley event at a major international meet.

The surprise winner was Dave Mora, an added entry to the U.S. team for the men's marathon who did not even wear a team jersey in the race.

Mora burst past tiring early leader Thomas Robert Naali of Tanzania and beat Soviet Nikolai Tabak by almost two minutes to snatch an unexpected victory on another unseasonably hot day in this coastal Pacific northwest city.

Soviet gymnast Vitali Scherbo was no surprise, but may have come of age in international competition as he won gold in the men's all-around event ahead of his teammate Valeri Bilenki.

The 18-year-old Scherbo, fifth in the all-around at the 1990 European championships, said after winning his first all-around gold in a major championship: "Yesterday I was a young man, today I am a man."

Sanders and Mora both turned in their best efforts ever to come away with victory.

Mora cut nearly two minutes off his best marathon time, while the 17-year-old Sanders sliced almost nine seconds off her personal best to beat Evans.

"I was really shocked. I couldn't believe it when I touched the wall," Sanders, who will join Evans at Stanford University this autumn, said after her victory.

Evans looked visibly upset after the race and it was 90 minutes before she arrived for her post-race interviews.

Evans, unaccustomed to losing, swallowed a large dose of it Saturday. She also had to settle for silver in the women's 4x200-metre freestyle relay won by East

Germany. American Matt Biondi, the swim star of the Seoul Olympics, won his second gold of the games, helping the U.S. men's 4x100-metre relay team beat the Soviets and East Germans.

Rowing awarded eight gold medals Saturday with Soviet oarsmen garnering three titles, East German and Danish rowers taking two golds apiece and Czechoslovakia winning one.

American Jackie Joyner-Kersey, who set a world record in the heptathlon at the 1986 Goodwill Games, was expected to begin defence of her title with the pole vault and women's 100 metres among other featured events.

Team handball competition was also expected to get underway Sunday with four round-robin matches.

The welcoming ceremony brought touches of Hollywood, Moscow and the old west to Seattle, known as the "emerald city" for its tree-covered hills.

Spectators held up cards to form a giant picture of a dove under clear blue skies on a hot summer evening in this city ringed by mountains, lakes and the sea.

"The Goodwill Games are a reflection of the new spirit of change we've seen throughout the world," Bush said in a televised speech to the welcoming ceremony.

"The Berlin Wall has been reduced to rubble, and soon Germany will be one again," Reagan, who once called the Soviet Union an "evil empire," told the crowd at Husky Stadium.

Ironically, at the time of the inaugural 1986 Goodwill Games in Moscow the founder, television magnate Ted Turner, called Reagan the worst president in United States history.

The 2,500 athletes participating in the games marched into the stadium in a group, not separated into nationalities as in the Olympics, in a symbol of togetherness.

Two skydivers, one American and one Soviet, parachuted into the stadium together and three U.S. and three Soviet jets flew overhead.

Long-time Kremlin confidant Armand Hammer, whose ties to the Soviet Union date back to Lenin, was honoured by the organisers for "treating bridges of goodwill around the world."

Spectators got a taste of rock 'n' roll Soviet-style with a performance by the Moscow group Gorky Park. Sixties rock group the Moody Blues and country singer Kenny Rogers also performed.

Members of more than 35 American Indian tribes, wearing feathered headdresses and traditional costumes, beat drums and performed traditional dances.

Rosi beats Van Horn to retain IBF title

MARINO, Italy (AP) — Italy's Gianfranco Rosi rose from a seventh-round knockout to win a unanimous 12-round decision over U.S. challenger Darrin Van Horn and retain his International Boxing Federation (IBF) junior middleweight title Saturday night.

The 33-year-old champion won the last five rounds, outlasting and at times outgunning his 22-year-old opponent.

"I could tell from the look in his eyes in the opening round that he was full of rage, and full of hunger," Rosi said. "He just happened to cross paths with a fighter who was even hungrier than he was."

Rosi won the IBF title a year ago in Atlantic City, New Jersey, with a stunning upset over the then-undefeated Van Horn.

Saturday's rematch was as a choppy, brawling bout with referee Randy Neumann repeatedly separating the two from clinches, often after the bell had rung.

Van Horn came out wildly in the opening rounds, lunging forward, trying to subdue the champion through brute force. The 1.77-metre, 69.6-kilogramme Rosi was able to deflect the assault, scoring with his left before Van Horn could unload, and landing an occasional right after making the challenger miss.

Rosi tried to keep Van Horn distance and clinch when he got close, but by the fourth round, the 1.80-metre, 69.8-kilogramme Van Horn began to connect.

In the fifth round, Neumann took a point away from Rosi for holding and the champion began to bleed from a cut on his scalp and a smaller one over his right eye.

Van Horn caught an off-balance Rosi with a left hook in the seventh, sending the Italian to his knees. Rosi protested that he'd merely slipped as Neumann counted him to eight.

Driver killed during Belgian Grand Prix

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian driver Guy Renard was killed in a crash during the Spa-Francorchamps 24-hour motor race Sunday.

Renard, 27, died when his Toyota Corolla caught fire after a collision with two other cars, the Belgian News Agency Belga said. No one else was hurt.

The crash just after midnight led to the race being halted for two hours.

Renard's Toyota went into a

spin, hit crash barriers on both sides of the track and came to a halt in the middle of the track.

The car caught fire after it was hit by a Porsche driven by another Belgian, Andre Hardy, and by a Ford Sierra Corsworth driven by Briton Andy Lyall.

Toyota withdrew their nine cars from the race after the accident.

Renard, a bachelor, lived in the Belgian town of Malmédy.

Schwartz recovers to win French motorcycle race

LE MANS, France (R) — American Kevin Schwantz recovered from a disastrous start to win the French 500 CC Motorcycling Grand Prix on his Suzuki Sunday and close the gap on compatriot Wayne Rainey, the world championship leader.

Rainey, riding a Yamaha, managed only third place, his worst performance this year. Honda rider Wayne Gardner of Australia was second.

However, Rainey still enjoys a comfortable 30-point lead over Schwantz in the championship standings.

Schwantz took no advantage of his pole position on the grid. Falling back to eighth place after a very slow start but he was soon back in contention, moving up to fourth after one lap.

Gardner, a former world champion, was the early pacesetter, closely followed by Rainey, who briefly took the lead on the second lap after poor braking by the Australian.

Gardner quickly reclaimed the lead and Schwantz moved up to chase the leading pair.

After six laps the Suzuki rider was close on the heels of Rainey whom he overtook on his first attack. He seized the lead on the eighth lap and never relinquished it.

Schwantz soon built a three-second advantage over Gardner which he was able to maintain until the finish despite tyre problems which affected all the riders in the very hot weather.

The Texan, who has now won four grands prix this season, has 153 points in the championship

against Rainey's 183.

He clocked 48 minutes 05.213 seconds for the 28 laps of the 4.430-kilometre circuit at an average speed of 154.770 kph and set a lap record of 1:41.853 at an average speed of 156.425 kph, more than a second faster than the previous mark he clocked last year.

Gardner fought off a late challenge by Rainey to finish second 2.40 seconds behind Schwantz.

Australian Michael Doohan was fourth on a Honda and is third in the world championship with 109 points.

Four times world champion Eddie Lawson, last year's winner, had to settle for fifth place on a Yamaha.

"I am very happy because everything was fine for me during the race as it was in practice," said Schwantz, recording his 12th career win.

"The heat was a problem and it was real sweat under the helmet, but it was the same for everybody."

"Despite Rainey's big lead in the championship, Schwantz said he was confident he could close the gap on the Yamaha rider.

"Nothing is done yet. There are five races left and I am going to try and win them all," he said.

In the 250 CC category, Spain's Carlos Cardus, riding a Honda, repeated his success of last year to get within seven points of championship leader, American John Kocinski.

Kocinski, riding a Yamaha, lost precious points when he fell as he was challenging Cardus for the lead.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Flighter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY JULY 23, 1990

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Caution, stubbornness, and the need for financial security are predominant today. Strong emphasis is placed on protecting the status quo — which is not a good climate for new beginnings.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have a lot to contribute, but feel a lack of response from associates. Expect some relief in the form of a new opportunity in the near future.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Fine tune your methods and you will reap the rewards. Financial pictures begin to accelerate. Eliminate stubborn attitudes.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A perception problem is compounded by unbending attachments to your own ideas. Frustration exists when you feel overreactive. Be patient.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Let this day pass with a smile in spite of frustration and boredom. Friday you have your own way. Get some added rest.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Venus moves into your sign accentuating your need for comfort, style, creative inspiration, and romance. Enjoy the evening pastimes.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) This is a beautiful day, and you feel

good. Economic problems lessen, and you are at a new crossroad. Cookbooks are the present course.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) A fortunate trend will focus on improved recognition for your efforts, added responsibility and popularity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) What you have been worried about, didn't happen, so it is advantageous not to dwell on the matter. Develop new business approaches.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You desire to change yourself. Take the first step, but keep in mind that a lifetime of habits cannot be modified overnight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You will be cheering at the change in your social life in the days to come. Be realistic when analyzing budgets and investments.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Today stellar influences could bring mating opportunities that have serious overtones. Don't let exaggerated feelings prompt you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) It may be necessary to hold feelings in check. You will find that poorly placed remarks are irrelevant, if you take a closer look at them.

THE Daily Crossword by Louis Sabat

ACROSS

1. Laughing
2. Asile range
3. Spill
4. Selenic
5. Stream
6. Rusted
7. Places to
8. Leander cash?
9. Never again
10. Pindar product
11. Jet
12. Phony
13. Sat. night
14. Special?
15. Soot-covered
16. Stress
17. Insane asylum
18. Printer's mark
19. Smoothing
20. tool
21. Ostich look-alike
22. Mob scene
23. Lift
24. Flecky insect
25. Office holders
26. Roost
27. Afr. river
28. Fakes
29. Assassin
30. Nerds
31. "Who Was ...?"
32. Gaudin's retreat
33. Noted restaurateur
34. Taper
35. Diet staple
36. Remarkable
37. Twofaces
38. Dwarf's cousin
39. Rock musical
40. Mature season
41. Seamstress
42. Bassoon's neighbor

DOWN

1. Leander's love
2. Grasping
3. Buy places
4. Tarsal filler
5. Bud or George
6. Reluctant
7. Food fish
8. Noah's craft
9. Coverage carrier
10. Bond admirer
11. Medieval chest
12. Film segment
13. Melodic Mel
14. Spilling
15. Winged victory
16. Borscht base
17. Grind
18. Together
19. Actor Michael
20. Verily in a way
21. Gaffer's goof
22. Reflector
23. Teach one on one
24. Havens
25. Titles
26. Fall guy
27. Scheme
28. Mild cigar
29. Medleys
30. Light rain
31. Program
32. Minnow's partner
33. Traveler to Oz
34. Inter
35. Put below
36. Attempt
37. Tart's state
38. Minnow's partner
39. Individual
40. 54 letter

Yesterday's Puzzle Solution

ACROSS

1. Laughing
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38. Minnow's partner
39. Individual
40. 54 letter

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

HARRIS 5-28

GOURMET TEAS

"I don't like herbs! I want some tea bags that taste like pizza!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYKOS

TYPAR

HORDIA

QUIROL

WHAT HE DID WHEN THE DOCTOR SUGGESTED HE TRY SOME WEIGHT LIFTING.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise word, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: LURID IRONY KENNEL MILDEN

Answer: What a face drawn with care might be WRINKLED

Banker marks Turkey as a creditor country

ISTANBUL (R) — Central bank governor Erusta Saracoglu, urging foreign financiers to take a more positive view of Turkey, said rapid economic progress was starting to turn it from a debtor into a creditor nation.

"People can not get over the perception of Turkey as a major borrower. There are more lenders today to Turkey than it needs," he told Reuters in an interview at the weekend.

"One single message I would give to the foreign financial community is that they should really stop looking at Turkey as a debt-ridden country," he said.

"Many people are not aware of the fact that... Turkey is rapidly becoming a creditor," he noted.

Foreign reserves reached a record high of \$10 billion on June 22, boosted by an easing of foreign exchange controls in August. Reserves were \$3.7 billion at the end of 1985.

Foreign debt stood at \$40.8 billion at the end of March, including bond issues to refinance foreign military sales debt.

"Ten billion dollars of foreign reserves compared to \$40 billion of foreign debt is very healthy," Saracoglu said.

He noted that \$8 billion of debt rescheduled in 1980-82 had been paid off by last year.

"When they make bridge loans to Poland or Hungary at the Bank of International Settlements, it never occurs to them that Turkey might take part as a creditor,"

said Saracoglu.

"We'd like to participate in these loans but nobody comes and asks us," he added.

He said his bank's foreign currency reserves covered its foreign debt servicing scheduled for next year.

"We can now foresee at least 12 months ahead. I remember that in November 1987, we had difficulty seeing one month ahead," he said.

Policies to revitalize domestic demand helped industrial output to grow 11 per cent in the first quarter of this year over the same period last year.

A drought, combined with stiff deflationary measures, cut gross national product (GNP) growth to an eight-year low of 1.7 per cent in 1989.

But officials say growth will exceed the targeted 5.7 per cent this year with a good harvest and a growing private sector.

Saracoglu said he was unconcerned by a current account deficit of \$1.16 billion in the first four months of this year, after a surplus of \$966 million last year.

The current trend in imports is not a worry... we will continue importing more... raw materials, investment goods. Large current account deficits add to growth," he said.

Tourism earnings and remittances from expatriate Turks are holding the current account deficit in check.

CIA boasts 'good job'

WASHINGTON (R) — The CIA defended its record against charges it had repeatedly overestimated the Soviet Union's economic strength, causing the United States to spend more than needed on defence.

George Kolt, the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) director of Soviet analysis, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that "we have done a good job" in assessing the Soviet economy.

The chairman, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a New York Democrat, questioned whether the United States would have spent as much on weapons in the 1980s if it had believed that the Soviet Union could not sustain its defence burden.

In a Washington Post article, Moynihan argued that "for 40 years we have hugely overestimated both the size of the Soviet economy and its rate of growth."

"This in turn has persistently distorted our estimates of the Soviet threat," he said.

But Kolt said that, despite the difficulties in estimating the Soviet economy when reliable statistics were not available, pre-

vious CIA testimony showed "that essentially we were right."

He said estimates indicated that the rate of increase in Soviet gross national product (GNP) — output of goods and services — had averaged 4.6 per cent from 1950 to 1975, but only two per cent from 1975 to 1989.

But despite the country's economic problems, he said, it had continued to pour resources into defence during the past decade until a decline in defence spending was noted last year.

Kolt said the CIA estimated the Soviet GNP to be 39 per cent of the U.S. GNP measured in 1989. The CIA estimated that 15-17 per cent of GNP was going to defence, with 40 per cent of all machinery, a third of metals output and 20 per cent of fuels going to its direct or indirect support.

S. Korea cracks down on speculators

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Prosecutors have said that about 5,000 real estate speculators were rounded up in a four-month crackdown since early March. Of those rounded up, 540 people were arrested and formally charged. About 4,000 suspects were booked for investigation and possible punishment, the prosecutors said.

They said prosecutor-general Kim Ki-Choon ordered a steady crackdown on speculation in land and houses. Prosecutors and government officials have been directed by President Roh Tae-Woo to stop the nation's rampant land speculation, which has roused public anger and fuelled inflation. Major business groups have been forced to sell land allegedly kept for speculation. Dozens of government officials have been sacked for speculative activity. The government ordered the crackdown mainly to check inflation, but prices have been going up despite a series of measures.

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Sunday, July 22, 1990			Central Bank official rates	
	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	663.0	667.0	French franc	120.7 121.4
Pound Sterling	1206.1	1213.3	Japanese yen (for 100)	445.6 448.3
Deutschemark	246.6	247.0	Dutch guilder	359.5 361.7
Swiss franc	474.0	476.8	Swedish crown	111.5 112.2
			Italian Lira (for 100)	55.3 55.6
			Belgian franc (for 10)	200.9 202.1

'France is nationalising Europe'

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — French state-owned industries have embarked on a programme of aggressive expansion throughout Europe, according to a new report.

In 1989 there were 40 French state acquisitions of European targets, valued at 2.67 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$3.34 billion), according to European Deal Review, published by the U.S. consultancy group Translink.

This amounted to 28 per cent of the total value of all French acquisitions in Europe, the periodical said.

"France is in effect nationalising Europe," commented Mark Dixon, the editor of the review.

In the first quarter of 1990 alone the figure was 2.52 billion ECUs (\$3.15 billion), or 58 per cent of all French acquisition in Europe. The figure was swollen by car maker Renault's reciprocal stakes in Volvo.

Some countries are considering taking action to protect their industries against the state-backed takeover binge. Britain warned in March that it may have to take special measures against French state-backed takeovers.

In 1989 Britain was the most popular target nation for the French companies, accounting for 1.52 billion ECUs (\$1.9 billion) of investment.

The takeovers included Rhone-Poulenc's purchase of RTZ PLC's RTZ chemicals unit, and Elf Aquitaine's buyout of Johnstone's paints. The chemical sector has figured prominently on the French shopping list.

The review said that many governments consider the takeovers unfair, because of the protection given to the French companies by their own government.

"The issue of uneven access to targets in different European countries has been raised in general terms for many years," it

said.

Apart from Renault, which is buying stakes in three Volvo units for 2.12 billion ECUs (\$2.65 billion), the most active French acquirers have been Rhone-Poulenc and Orkem, both chemical concerns.

Over 98 per cent of French acquisitions in the chemical sector were made by state-owned companies.

The review pointed out that the financing behind many of the acquisitions has also antagonised neighbouring countries.

State companies have been allowed to sell shares in foreign subsidiaries, and at the end of 1989 the French government was considering using its credit rating to borrow cheaply on behalf of French state firms.

"The European Commission's fight against unfair state aid ensures that it would strongly oppose any development of this kind," the review said.

Tough times loom for customers wanting Swiss banking secrecy

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — One of the Swiss banking industry's traditional ways to ensure secrecy for customers will be on its way out if government regulators have their way.

Bankers are talking at federal efforts to abolish the legal possibility for clients to hide their identity behind lawyers and trustees who open accounts in their name.

Efforts to prevent the deposit of shady funds in Switzerland have focused on restricting the chances of using front men as intermediaries, mainly through clauses in a 1977 self-policing code agreed on by the banks.

But regulators say the number of clients guarding anonymity in this way, known as "super banking secrecy," remains higher than they would like.

The Swiss Banking Commission, a government watchdog, toughened its line late last month by launching a probe to uncover

any past abuses by lawyers and trustees.

The move followed the collapse of talks between the commission and the trade associations of Swiss bankers, lawyers and trustees. Aimed at a voluntary end to super-secrecy, the talks instead brought a long-simmering conflict to a head.

The dispute centres on the Form B Clause, added to the self-policing rules in 1982, under which lawyers and trustees pledge in writing that they are not merely acting as no-questions-asked smokecreens for questionable customers.

Daniel Zuberbuehler, vice director of the banking commission's secretariat, said he regrets there was no accord to abolish Form B.

But Switzerland's new criminal law against money laundering, which takes effect Aug. 1, has emboldened regulators.

They argue Form B is a continuing exception to identification procedures that clashes with the money laundering laws.

"After Aug. 1, every bank would be well advised not to accept any more Form B's," Zuberbuehler said in an interview.

He also urged banks to expose the identity of all account holders protected under existing Form B's.

Legal uncertainty will loom about the new legislation's scope until Swiss courts interpret them through judgments.

And for now it remains unclear whether the commission's probe will lead to a further tightening of Form B procedures or their outright abolition.

Swiss bankers worry that monied clients seeking discretion are turning to Liechtenstein, Switzerland's tiny neighbour, and Luxembourg as alternatives.

EFTA cuts key demands for economic zone with EC

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) has moderated key demands to improve its chances of creating free passage of people and goods with the European Community (EC), a Swiss minister has said.

EFTA, which groups Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Finland and Austria, has abandoned many of its demands for exemptions from EC law in its bid to form the so-called "European economic space."

Swiss Economy Minister Jean-Pascal Delamuraz said EFTA wanted to adopt as much EC law as possible dealing with free movement of goods, services, capital and people between the two groups.

"We have considerably reduced what could be considered desirable in terms of exceptions to what is really and substantially indispensable," he told a news conference.

Delamuraz, whose country holds the rotating presidency of EFTA, was speaking during a visit to Brussels for talks with several members of the EC's executive commission on the progress of the negotiations which started in late June.

Community officials have said

a long list of temporary or permanent exemptions from EC rules requested by various EFTA countries posed one of the major stumbling blocks to agreement on creating the common zone of 370 million consumers.

Delamuraz said the question of exceptions would remain one of the two toughest problems in the negotiations even though the group had called down its demands.

The 12-nation Community has said it cannot let EFTA have a say in its complex internal decision-making process.

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Disputes loom at GATT talks in Geneva today

GENEVA (R) — Rows over farm trade reform, curbs on textile exports, commercial piracy and new rules for service industries confront delegates at international trade talks resuming in Geneva Monday.

On the eve of a week of Uruguay Round negotiations, the European Community (EC) was at odds with the United States and other agricultural exporters on reforming farm trade and slashing government subsidies to farmers.

Third World textile producers were fuming over a draft agreement to phase out restrictions on their exports. They said it included disguised EC moves to perpetuate the curbs.

The United States and its main trading partners were deadlocked over attempts by Washington to exclude aviation, shipping and finance from a proposed pact to liberalise service industries which do worldwide business worth \$600 billion a year.

Washington wants a separate agreement on financial services, such as banking and insurance, outside the four-year-old Uruguay Round of trade bargaining involving 105 nations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Among other disputes facing negotiators in Geneva this week, developing countries oppose moves by industrialised states for stronger protection of patents, trademarks and other intellectual property rights.

Washington is in dispute with other industrialised nations over issues concerning copyrights and industrial design, and with the EC on geographical "appellations of origin" for wines.

Negotiators will try to set a timetable and present draft outlines of proposed agreements on international trading patterns in 15 sectors to go before a December meeting of trade ministers.

Targets include an average 30 per cent cut in tariff import duties on traditional merchandise trade, opening up markets for Third World exports such as fruit, spices and timber, and updating GATT rules, which govern 90 per cent of world trade.

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East German coalition reaches tentative compromise in row

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's coalition government pulled back from the verge of collapse Sunday by reaching a tentative compromise in a row over the timing of unification with Bonn.

"There is a procedural compromise," a relieved Liberal Party parliamentary leader Rainer Ortel told reporters as parliament (Volkskammer) convened for a rare Sunday session.

The 100-day, five-party administration came close to breaking up because of differences between Christian Democratic (CDU) Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere and other coalition parties on the process of merger with West Germany.

Ortel's Liberals and the Social Democrats wanted East Germany to accede to the day before pan-German elections planned for Dec. 2. De Maiziere wanted the merger the day after.

Joining a day before would mean elections in all Germany under West German rules and so probably exclude smaller parties from the first pan-German parliament in half a century.

Fusing the day after would mean using two electoral systems. Smaller parties would stand more chance but it would split the left's vote and favour the Christian

Democrats, the main ruling party in both Germanys.

Ortel said the deal would involve a "high-level body" deciding on when to accede, a reference to a joint meeting this month of the two German parliament's committees on unity.

According to the compromise proposal's text, hammered out by party leaders early Sunday and obtained by Reuters, elections would be organised after a unification treaty is agreed in talks to start soon between Bonn and East Berlin.

But the proposal gives no date for accession and no details on whether elections should be under two systems or one, meaning the row could theoretically spark again at any time.

A debate and vote on the proposal were expected later Sunday after parliament decides on the setting up of five federal states to replace 15 districts established by the Communists.

On Saturday night, the coalition split looked unbridgeable and both sides were resorting to

increasingly strong language. Even Bonn politicians began joining in.

East German SPD leader Wolfgang Thierse even called De Maiziere "a concrete head" for his refusal to change tack.

With the main domestic and external issues of unification largely resolved and the two economies already merged, the dispute put the focus on the personal future of many East German politicians and some in Bonn too.

The original Liberal proposal was rejected in the 400-seat Volkskammer Friday, prompting the Liberals and SPD to threaten to quit the coalition.

Questioning the pace of unification, East German Defence Minister Rainer Eppelmann told the West German magazine Der Spiegel: "In the past we allowed a little more time between getting to know one another and jumping into bed."

The mud-slinging was not confined to the timing of unification but extended to the question of East Germany's armed forces.

East German Foreign Minister Markus Meckel, a Social Democrat, accused West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl of arrogance for not consulting De Maiziere before concluding far-

reaching agreements with the Kremlin on security for a united Germany.

Kohl's top foreign policy adviser, Horst Teltschik, denied this and made scant attempt to hide his irritation with Meckel.

"If developments pass him (Meckel) by, that is not our fault," Teltschik told the newspaper Bild Am Sonntag.

Meckel has angered Bonn by proposing that a slimmed-down East German army could remain in existence until Soviet forces left several years after unification.

Bonn has said that units of the West German Bundeswehr sent to what is now East Germany will not be under NATO's integrated command.

But it insists that only one army will exist after unification and says East Germany's National People's Army (NVA), long a pillar of the old Communist system, should be scrapped.

Eppelmann told Der Spiegel he resisted suggestions that the Bundeswehr could remain more or less the same size while the NVA disappeared.

"That is not on, if the two German republics are really going to grow to one," he said.

30 Tigers killed in Sri Lankan gunbattle

COLOMBO (R) — Thirty Tamil separatist guerrillas were killed in a four-hour gunbattle with Sri Lankan troops after they ambushed an army convoy and killed six soldiers, military sources said Sunday.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas attacked the convoy Saturday at Mannar in the northwest, the military said. At least 11 soldiers were injured.

The rebel death toll could not be independently confirmed. Repairs were under way to a vital causeway linking the northern peninsula to the rest of the island, the military said.

The causeway was blown up Saturday by the Tigers, who are fighting for an independent Tamil minority state in the northeast. The road was badly damaged by the blast and effectively cut to traffic.

More than 1,450 people have been killed in fighting since June 11 when the Tigers launched attacks on police posts and army camps in the north and east.

In the east, six rebels were killed in a clash at Batticaloa, the military said Sunday.

Two soldiers and two civilians died when a military bus accidentally caught fire. The rear of the bus, where explosives were being transported, caught fire and exploded, the military said. Eleven passengers were injured.

At least 39 out of 45 policemen who were abducted by the rebels in the east on June 11 escaped from their captors and reported to police posts Friday.

The men said they overpowered and killed four guards at a rebel camp at Tirukovil in Amparai district on June 17. They reached safety after a 65-kilometre three-week trek through thick jungle.

More than 1,000 police surrendered to the rebels in the east and 630 were still missing, the government said.

A mass grave, believed to contain the bodies of more than 110 policemen shot by the rebels, was found in the east, officials said.

South African police seize ANC infiltrators

CAPE TOWN (R) — South African police have arrested scores of African National Congress infiltrators who entered the country to stage attacks despite government-ANC reconciliation, security sources said Sunday.

Arms seized during the arrests over the past two weeks included a ground-to-air missile, the sources said. One said 89 guerrillas had been detained, mostly as they crossed into South Africa from neighbouring states.

Another said more than 40 people loyal both to the ANC and to the South African Communist Party were being held in Transvaal and Natal provinces. He said Communist ANC elements seemed intent on wrecking the peace process set in motion earlier this year.

News of the arrests broke two days after President F.W. de Klerk and ANC leader Nelson Mandela agreed at their first meeting in six weeks to resume talks next month. They met 48 hours after Mandela returned from a six-week tour of Europe, North America and Africa.

A security source in Pretoria said some "big fish" were among ANC infiltrators already caught and others were being hunted. Arms, caches seized included rifles, ammunition, explosives and an RPG-7 anti-aircraft missile.

The Johannesburg Sunday Times said Mandela had declined to discuss the arrests with its reporters.

The newspaper quoted him as saying, in reference to the ANC's 30-year-old armed campaign against white minority rule: "The ANC has made it clear that it will consider the suspension of hostilities as soon as the government removes the obstacles to negotiation."

Since the ANC was legalised and Mandela released from 27 years in prison last February, the movement has refused to suspend its armed struggle or to drop its support for sanctions against Pretoria. But guerrilla action by its armed wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), appears to have waned.

'Only miracle could save Philippine quake victims'

BAGUIO, Philippines (R) — Rescuers abandoned hope Sunday of saving hundreds of people entombed in a quake-devastated Philippine mountain city, saying it would take a miracle for anyone to survive.

Relief agencies said more than 1,000 had died in last week's earthquake which ravaged six northern Philippine provinces and they expected the death toll rise once they heard from remote isolated villages.

"It's finished... if anybody is still alive it would be a miracle," said Hugh MacMillan, a member of a British team searching for survivors buried for six days in rubble of the Hyatt Hotel and dozens of other buildings in this mountain resort.

MacMillan spoke to reporters after the British and Japanese rescue experts met a Philippine presidential task force to assess prospects of recovering anyone alive from the ruins.

"We have found no indications of life for the past 27 hours... our goal is finished," MacMillan said.

The task force said in a statement the assessment of the foreign experts was that "the chances are nil for finding anyone still alive."

A sharp tremor again jolted the northern provinces Sunday but there were no reports of casualties.

Seismologists said it was the 592nd aftershock of last Monday's quake, which measured 7.7 on the open-ended Richter Scale. It flattened hotels, schools and other buildings on the main island of Luzon and triggered landslides that wiped out entire villages.

Baguio, 200 kilometres north of Manila, was one of the worst hit areas.

Workers had reported hearing tapping from beneath the Hyatt Hotel rubble but no survivors were found.

Salvadorean talks appear deadlocked

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — Salvadorean government and rebel negotiators prepared to resume peace talks Sunday with nothing to show after two days of effort.

With three days left in the scheduled five-day meeting, both sides remained cordial while trying to achieve a ceasefire in the 10-year-old civil war.

However, the leftist rebels insist that profound changes be made to El Salvador's military and conservative President Alfredo Cristiani has rejected some of the proposals.

U.N. mediator Alvaro Desoto said the talks, scheduled to end Tuesday, could still produce accords on agenda items spelled out during a meeting earlier this year in Caracas, Venezuela.

"I have hope that agreements will be reached on political themes just as in Caracas, but we're waiting to see how the negotiations pan out," Desoto said in a news conference.

He said that no action can be expected on the political themes unless the key issue of the military is settled.

"We have been working on the subject of the armed forces, but there will be no advances unless accords are reached in that regard," he said.

Representatives of the rebel Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, insist the military should be reduced and purged of rightist officers responsible for violating human rights. The rebels also want a say in the appointment of the defence minister and the commander in chief.

"The government has made us a counter proposal, but we feel it doesn't satisfy our aspirations, because it only covers secondary themes," said FMLN representative Miguel Saez.

"We must wait for them to go deeper with their proposal," he said.

This is the third round of negotiations since Cristiani's rightist government took office in June 1988. The first round held in Caracas resulted in an agenda, but the second, held in Mexico, failed to produce any concrete agreements.

Earlier negotiations in 1984 and 1987 ended in stalemates.

Government representatives in Costa Rica refused to comment Saturday. But in neighbouring El Salvador, Cristiani indicated that some of the guerrilla demands challenged the existence of the armed forces and could be considered unconstitutional.

The Salvadorean army, about 54,000 strong, is the second biggest in Central America after that of Nicaragua.

The U.S. has been supporting a succession of governments during the decade-old guerrilla war, which has killed more than 72,000 people.

Mongolians vote in first free elections

ULAN BATOR (R) — Travelling to polling stations on horseback or greeting electoral officers at home in their yurts on the steppes, Mongolians voted Sunday in their first freely contested elections.

Voting was brisk and long queues built up in the capital, Ulan Bator, with residents predicting the ruling Communist Party would maintain its 69-year-old hold on power.

Mongolia's new reformist President Punsalmaagyn Ochirbat was an early voter as was Sanjaasuren Zorig, the 28-year-old leader of the largest opposition group, the Mongolian Democratic Party, which called off a threatened boycott of the polls.

"Everything is peaceful. Everyone knows the Communists will win. There's no fuss. People are just lining up," one resident said.

Polling booths opened at dawn for 15 hours for the parliamentary election's preliminary stage.

Next Sunday, Mongolians will vote for a second and final time with candidates whittled down to two for each of the 430 contested seats in the Great People's Hural.

Some voters rode 30 kilometres into Ulan Bator on horseback to cast their ballot.

Electoral officers dressed in traditional robes travelled by motorcycle to take sealed, red

voting boxes to remote mountain areas.

One old couple in a yurt, the felt tent that is home to many in both cities and the countryside, followed traditional hospitality by offering officers a liquor made from mare's milk. They drank and then voted.

Sandwiched between the Communist giants of China and the Soviet Union, the two million scattered people of Mongolia were the latest to take advantage of the democracy movement that has swept the Communist World.

Mongolia was for decades virtually a satellite republic of the Soviet Union. Pro-democracy demonstrations began late last year, signalling the start of a new era.

The Communist Party, officially known as the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, changed its leadership and in March relinquished its guaranteed monopoly on power.

It has pledged to continue a reform programme, which would include private ownership of property.

Election officials said the turnout was up to 50 per cent by noon in some of the 274 electoral districts going to the polls. There was no voting at the other 156 districts because only two candidates were standing.

Communist Party candidates made up 70 per cent of the 2,300 taking part in the primary stage.

Mongolia's fledgling opposition charged the elections were not entirely fair because the Communists had more money, more access to the media and more help from a system that gives greater representation to the conservative countryside.

Negotiations averted a threatened boycott. "We know the Communists will win," Zorig said. "But the most important thing is that we will get some representatives into parliament and we can start work on (new election) laws," he said in an interview Saturday.

The opposition was likely to win support among the urban youth and intellectuals, with the countryside a Communist stronghold.

Six parties took part in the polls, including a Green Party campaigning against severe pollution in some of Mongolia's industrial towns. Results were expected Monday.

Voting was a time-consuming procedure in some areas, where there were more than 50 candidates on the ballot paper. Although the Communists were expected to win comfortably in the Great People's Hural, the opposition was expected to be better represented in the Small Hural, a 53-seat body that will draft legislation and be appointed by the larger chamber and the parties.

Spain voices concern over embassy situation in Havana

HAVANA (R) — Spain's ambassador in Havana told Cuban officials Saturday his government was very concerned about its embassy after nine unidentified Cubans broke in despite a heavy police guard, diplomatic sources said.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said Arturo Serrano de Haro told Cuban Foreign Ministry officials that any incidents at the embassy, where nine Cuban asylum-seekers were

already sheltering, could seriously harm already strained relations between the two countries.

Spanish diplomats strongly suspected that the nine young men who mysteriously penetrated a police cordon around the embassy early Saturday and broke in were not genuine asylum-seekers.

"The situation inside the embassy is very tense," one of the sources said.

They said Spanish diplomats were meticulously checking the

stories and identities of the nine newcomers, who they described as "fit and strongly built." They added that at least four of the nine had jumped from an adjoining balcony that had previously been guarded by Cuban police.

The sources recalled violent incidents at the Czechoslovak embassy last Monday which occurred after seven Cubans, who also mysteriously penetrated a Cuban police guard, joined seven original asylum-seekers.



V.P. Singh

Singh visits Moscow today

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh meets Mikhail Gorbachev this week at the first Indo-Soviet summit since the cold war ended and radical changes began shaking the Soviet Union.

Singh, who emerged bloodied but victorious after a power struggle with his ambitious deputy last week, is due to arrive in Moscow Monday accompanied by his ministers of trade, finance, foreign affairs and senior officials.

Singh's four-day visit will be his first to a major power since he took office after defeating Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party in last November's general election.

Singh told a news conference Friday he looked forward to a first-hand account from Gorbachev of the momentous changes in the Soviet Union over the past year.

"I look forward to a personal rapport with Gorbachev... to get a first-hand feel of the changing circumstances ahead in the Soviet Union," Singh said.

Changes in the Soviet Union and India "have not affected our relations which are based on a historical process," he said, calling Moscow "one of our greatest friends."

The two leaders have much in common. Both are beset by secessionist movements. Both are trying to restructure their economies. Both face challenges to their leadership.

Moscow's tussle with the breakaway Baltic republics has a jarring resonance for India, battling revolts in Kashmir, Punjab and the northeastern state of Assam.

"I think Mr. Singh can learn a lot from the Soviet Union and particularly from Mr. Gorbachev about independence movements and economic reconstruction," said one Asian diplomat.

But a Soviet diplomat said Moscow could learn from India's long experience with a mixed economy and its handling of autonomy movements.

"There is a great deal we can learn from one another," he said.

Singh's visit takes place two weeks after Gorbachev survived a bruising battle at the 28th Communist Party Congress and a month after NATO allies in Brussels declared an end to the cold war.

2 B-2 bombers may be delayed — U.S. Air Force

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Air Force has told Congress it needs another \$1.4 billion to acquire two B-2 bombers on schedule, an admission bound to further erode congressional support for the radar-evading aircraft.

Air Force Secretary Donald B. Rice notified House Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin of the budget shortfall in a letter obtained by the Associated Press during the weekend. It came on the eve of a speech Monday by Aspin in which, congressional sources say, he will propose cancelling the B-2 programme entirely.

Aspin, who kept the increasingly expensive plane alive with compromise legislation last year, has been moving towards halting funds for the programme because of its high cost, which has

skyrocketed to about \$860 million each.

The pricetag may surpass the \$1-billion mark based on the latest revelations.

Proponents of House legislation to limit the programme to the planes currently in production say they are a handful of votes short of the number needed for approval.

But the plane still has staunch support in the Senate, where the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, is a key proponent.

Rice, in his letter dated July 11, said that without the \$1.4 billion, acquisition of the two bombers will have to be delayed until 1997.

The two B-2s are among 15 bombers intended to be bought through 1990 at a cost of \$27 billion. The air force had begun procurement of the two planes in 1988 and 1989.

Burma military signals no quick handover of power

BANGKOK (R) — By refusing to release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi a year after her house arrest, Burma's military rulers have indicated they will not bow to public pressure for a quick handover of power.

Diplomats said Sunday the army, which has ruled the country for the last 22 months, had clearly decided to extend her detention for fear she would galvanise her party into demanding the power it won in elections in May.

"There's no doubt she remains inside because she is political anathema to the army and will stay there until they feel the situation has stabilised," one said.

Aung San Suu Kyi, a 44-year-old housewife until becoming the reluctant leader of a 1988 abortive uprising, has been under house arrest since last July. But her party, the National League for Democracy, still swept May's assembly elections, winning 80 per cent of seats contested.

But the army ruled out an early transfer of power, demanding a new constitution and a plebiscite before any new government is formed.

Truckloads of troops were shipped into downtown Rangoon last Thursday for Martyr's Day, which last year sparked the first open confrontation for months between the League and the army and led to Aung San Suu Kyi's arrest. League Chairman Tin Oo was also held.

"During the last few days the state media has opened fire again on the league and Aung San Suu Kyi. Most of it is backfiring but it's a sign that they're very worried," one diplomat said.

Diplomats said they believed the ruling army council must have secretly decided to keep the League leader under house arrest for another 160 days. The law allows her to be detained for up to three years without being formally charged.

No official announcement has been made. Diplomats said security around her house had been tightened.

"There's no neat political solution here. She is as popular locked up as she is outside, but as long as she is locked up the people will be getting angrier," one diplomat said.

But they added that the League was losing the confidence it gained by its landslide victory in May and needed Aung San Suu Kyi's political guidance.

Army determination to keep power in the face of an overwhelming mandate for change has left few Burmese willing to sacrifice their lives as they did when hundreds of demonstrators ran into army bullets and bayonets two years ago, diplomats said.

"I don't see any indication out there that that sentiment is building at this point. It may only take a spark to change that, but 1990 is not 1988. There's not the same sense that mountains can be moved," one said.

Stalemate reached in Quebec Indian blockade

CHATEAUGUAY, Quebec (R) — An impasse appeared to have been reached Saturday between heavily-armed Mohawk Indians blocking a bridge and roads near Montreal and hundreds of police officers confronting them.

Ten days after a fierce gunfight that left one Quebec police officer dead, no solution appeared to be in sight in a conflict which began over the ownership of disputed land on a golf course near the Kahnawake Mohawk Reserve, about 32 kilometres west of Montreal.

Under a blistering sun, Indians from the reserve continued to fly the flag of their self-proclaimed Mohawk nation Saturday while riot police trained binoculars and submachine guns on their barricades.

Indians blocked one of the main arteries over the St. Lawrence River to support demands made by other Mohawks who have seized control of a road running through nearby Oka, Quebec.

The battle over plans to enlarge the golf course has touched off a major political fight over native civil rights and land claims.

The assembly of first nations, an Indian lobbying group, tabled a list of demands Friday, including a call for the federal government to reconvene the Canadian parliament to deal with the land claims issues.

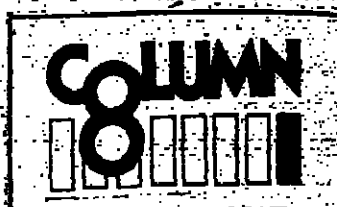
But on Saturday a federal minister of Indian affairs rejected the demand.

Security is heavy around the reserves, with lookouts set on various country roads, as police try to contain access to the Indian groups, who are armed with assault rifles.

The Red Cross has brought provisions to the 6,000-strong Kahnawake Reservation, the first time it has had to go behind the lines of an armed conflict in Canada since 1885, when Metis warriors rebelled during Saskatchewan's Riel Rebellion.

"Food is short. We've been rationing it out," said a Mohawk on the Kahnawake Reserve who gave his name as Louis.

He said there seemed to be no sign that Mohawk support for the bridge blockade was flagging. "We have a cause that we have to stand up for," Louis said.



Marilyn Quayle undergoes surgery

WASHINGTON (R) — Marilyn Quayle, wife of Vice President Dan Quayle, underwent surgery Saturday morning for an undisclosed ailment, but is expected to make a complete recovery.

Quayle spokesman David Beckwith said: Beckwith would not disclose the reason for the surgery or where it took place, but said the disease was diagnosed at its earliest stage through a pap test — a common procedure for detecting cervical cancer or pre-cancerous conditions. "Mrs. Quayle will be able to resume her full schedule in four to six weeks. A full and total recovery is expected," Beckwith said.

The vice president and Mrs. Quayle urge all women to have yearly pap tests. With early diagnosis, complete cure and total recovery are possible. The Quayle family is thankful that this test was able to detect her disease at its earliest stage," he said. The pap test is named for George Papanicolaou, the doctor who invented it. The procedure is used to study cells in the cervix and can detect cancerous cells or changes that may be the first signs of cancer. Physicians recommend that women over 18 have annual pap tests.

200,000 attend Berlin Wall concert

EAST BERLIN (R) — Nearly 200,000 people crammed into the former "death strip" at the Berlin Wall Saturday night for one of the most elaborate rock concerts ever staged — an all-star version of Pink Floyd's The Wall.

The two-hour show, televised live around the world, was a spectacular feast of fireworks, lights, animation and special effects with an eccentric cast of thousands. A 100-strong Soviet army band took part along with British military helicopters, lorries, Hell's Angels motorbike riders and two giant blow-up models depicting a ghoulish teacher figure and a fierce wild pig.

Summer jackets developed for cows

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese university professor said he has developed summer jackets to shield cows from the sun, harmful insects and diseases. Mosaku Sakurai, 61, of the Tokyo University of Agriculture, said the jacket consists of three pieces that cover the head, back and abdomen and are made of unwoven materials like straw. He said he had developed the jackets after observing cows for more than eight years. The agriculture professor said cows lose their appetites and produce less milk when they are exposed to the hot sun during summer. He said a black-haired cow's back can reach 60 C degrees (140 Fahrenheit) if it is outside for about 20 minutes in summer. But wearing the jacket, a cow can spend more time eating grass and can produce more milk, Sakurai said. In addition, the jacket also protects a cow's stomach from getting wet in rainy weather, which cuts down on cows suffering from diarrhoea, he said. He said the jacket is not yet being produced commercially.

Japanese to mount largest search for lake monster

VANCOUVER, Canada (R) — A Japanese film crew is mounting what is believed to be the largest expedition ever to find a legendary lake monster known as Ogo-pogo, the expedition's Canadian organiser said Friday. Arlene Gaal, an author, said the six-member crew from Tokyo's Nippon TV had chartered three so-called "houseboats" — a houseboat and a helicopter to search for the snake-like creature of Indian folklore in Okanagan Lake, about 200 miles (320 kilometres) east of Vancouver. Gaal said the Japanese crew will employ five local divers and spend five days on Okanagan, an 80-mile-long (130-kilometre-long) lake with a maximum depth of about 300 metres. She added that hopes for the expedition's success had been boosted by two alleged sightings of the creature this week — and by extremely hot weather. "It's an ideal time. The weather is as good as it has been. They have a better opportunity of having the animal surface than other crews," she said. Businessman Roy Pearson told Reuters he saw the monster as he was driving with a friend across a floating bridge in Kelowna, a lakeside town of 75,000 people. "I've lived in Kelowna since 1972 and have always been a sceptic. From now on I'm a believer," he said.